

# HOMELAND SCHOOLS





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# **"HOMELAND SCHOOLS"**

**Cabins to Complexes**

**Researched by Many Homeland People**

**Compiled by**

**Republic County Retired Teachers Association**

**A Bicentennial Project**

**1976**



**Published by  
The Telescope Publishing Co., Inc.  
Belleville, Kansas  
1977**



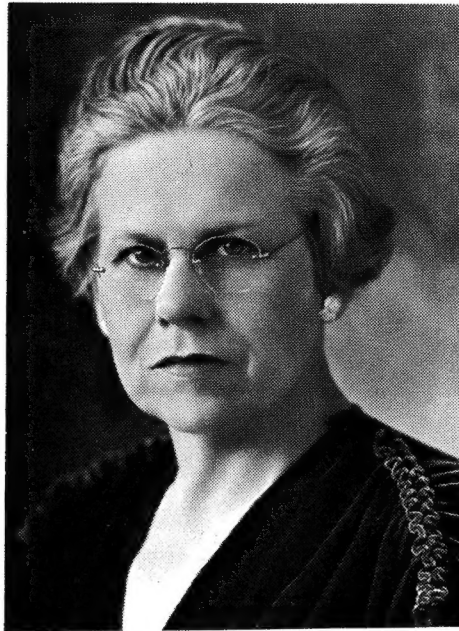
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#### FOREWORD

Ever since the first primitive communications of mankind, the inborn tendency has been in evidence that people of each generation have endeavored to pass knowledge to their successors.

Thomas Paine, a journalist and editor in the early Colonial Era, put out a pamphlet named, "Common Sense", which was thought-provoking and circulated widely. The public summary was that common sense seemed to be the most uncommon thing in the world.

Schools for children were an assortment of ideas which varied in origin and maintainence. Support for education came from two sources, secular or religious. There were neighborhood schools. Different denominations, such as the Lutheran, established their own schools. Private schools were patronized by those who could afford that added living expense.

Thomas Jefferson carved his name in history in so many phases of life. In regard to his State of Virginia, he proposed a universal law establishing schools.

Horace Mann in Massachusetts advocated public schools at public expense; or taxation, which was not the most favored word in the English language. Had not the Continental Congress back in 1776 thrown off the yoke of so many different tax laws that had been laid on the Colonists by Great Britain? Stormy protests arose but Horace Mann and others who also had visions of future needs supported the idea and public schools were established in Massachusetts under constitutional authority.

In 1787, the Founding Fathers in framing our Constitution provided for the enlightenment of the citizens for responsibilities in a democracy, or in our republic, by stating that "In order to form a more perfect union, to establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America".

By degrees, tax-supported schools increased, due to

the fearless and tireless efforts of Horace Mann and other people with vision, until common school districts were formed within the townships, counties, and consequently, were wide-spread across the newly-settled states as the vanguard of pioneers kept forging westward to conquer new lands for homesteads. Tribute was paid in many instances by naming a new school in honor of Horace Mann with his name in large letters on the face of the new building which proves that sometimes mankind recognizes the fact an earlier pioneer sacrificed much in time, effort, and personal expense that young Americans today could enjoy the advantages brought about through education at ALL levels in numerous fields.

Thorough research by hard work given freely now reveals a sweeping bird's-eye-view of Republic County History. The foresight and perseverance of the Pioneers who first settled the area, established a school for children as a priority in organization of any other of its political units to follow. As the population created further demands, more and more schools were organized, including the advent of high schools.

Doubtless, current and future readers will feel that a salute is due to the many workers and leaders who compiled a project of such diversity on the Bicentennial for Republic County. Continued thanks through the third century that loyal citizens cared enough to do their very best in a patriotic service locally and for encouragement to succeeding generations that stories of development in many fields may be preserved for posterity in our United States of America.

FANNIE DILSAVER

Editor's Note: Miss Fannie Dilsaver, 88, our former Republic County Superintendent, died, Thursday, September 9, 1976, at St. Margaret's Hospital in Kansas City, Kansas. She will be remembered as a devoted teacher, a professional of high caliber. We are grateful that she was able to write this Foreword early last spring before her illness.





REPUBLIC COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



MARY ANTHONY



EDITH A. ATKINSON



+HELEN P. BECK



+ESTHER COONROD



DORA N. DEVORE



SYLVIA DONALDSON



+OLIVE G. FOYT



HAZEL HANZSLICK



FLORENCE LOWE



EDYTHE LOWELL



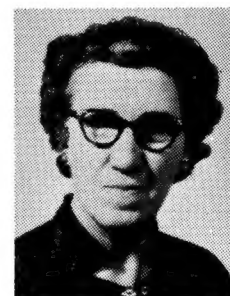
EMMA MAKALOUS



HAZEL J. MULCH



SARAH PROFT



+EDNA ROBISON



EMMA F. SHEPEK



+DORIS D. SMITH



+MILDRED MOORE



ZELLA H. BERGGREN



MARY PRICE



LAURA STEPANEK



+MURIEL TALLENT



FRANCES GRITTEN

Those names marked with asterisk (+) are the Bicentennial Book Committee.

The ink sketches for the cover of the book were done by Doris Smith. It has been her wish to show some of the actual school houses - the log school with its sod roof, some of the more ornate frame buildings, stone schools and the landscape near-by.



### DEDICATION

Lest we forget  
our school associations  
of the past  
this book is  
dedicated  
to all past, present and future  
teachers  
and to all the parents and pupils  
who are readers  
of this book .

—by Olive Fojt

### TEACHER'S PRAYER

Help me, Dear Lord, to unlock each small heart  
With keys of kindness and with loving care.  
With wisdom may I set each child apart  
That has some special need, make me aware.  
Enough that I take the time that I might spend  
In idle chatter some where through the day,  
To make some lonely child a better friend  
By patient guidance in his work and play.  
With faith and understanding sympathy  
I pray to heal where discipline can't reach  
And ask above all else that I may see  
The need to love each child that I would teach.  
Written by a grade school teacher

### PREFACE

In a bit more than a century Republic County has witnessed the building of dug-out schools, teaching of subscription schools, log schoolhouses being replaced by frame and stone and brick structures - all within walking distances from the many homesteads that dotted the prairie. As better roads and transportation evolved, town centers built more impressive edifices for the expansion of the curriculum. Quietly and without fanfare the many rural schools began closing their doors as rural population dwindled to a small part of what it once had been. Before we realized it, the little school-houses were fast becoming legend - gone from the rural scene.

Because there seemed to be a need in this Bicentennial Year to recapture the story before it had completely vanished, the Republic County Retired Teachers Association decided to retrieve as much as we could get of the story for each little school. Some of these districts had preserved much of their heritage in school records and in pictures; others we were not able to get. However, we have tried to give to the future generations some authentic history of education in our Homeland. We are sure that there will be errors, for we are human, but if our readers can derive as much joy from it as we have had writing it, perhaps our mistakes will be forgiven.

A common effort, such as this has been, tends to tie our friendships - by reuniting old friends, and by establishment of many new friendships. This has made it worthwhile. Beyond this, we hope the serious student may some day be able to catch a glimpse of the effectiveness of education during our first century in Republic County.

Our readers may be interested to know that our Republic County Retired Teachers Association (RCRTA) is very young - organized on April 21, 1975 with the following Charter members:

Mary Anthony	Esther Coonrod
Edith Atkinson	Dora Devore
Helen Beck	Sylvia Donaldson

Olive Fojt	Hazel Mulch
Hazle Hanzlick	Sarah Proft
Florence Lowe	Edna Robison
Edythe Lowell	Emma Shepek
Emma Makalous	Doris D. Smith
Muriel Tallent	

#### 1975-76 Officers:

President - Mrs. Hazel Mulch  
Vice Pres. - Mrs. Sylvia Donaldson  
Secretary - Miss Edythe Lowell  
Treasurer - Mrs. Helen Beck

Mrs. Mildred Moore soon became a member and so we had 18 members.

#### 1976-77 Officers:

President - Mrs. Doris D. Smith  
Vice Pres. - Mrs. Edith Atkinson  
Secretary - Mrs. Muriel Tallent  
Treasurer - Mrs. Esther Coonrod

#### 1976 new members added:

Mrs. Zellah Berggren  
Mrs. Mary Price  
Mrs. Laura Stepanek  
Miss Frances Gritten

Our present membership of twenty-two retired teachers invites you to read and enjoy "Homeland Schools". Our combined teaching years total more than 300 - all filled with the happiness derived from the realization that we were able in our small way to help develop the dreams and aspirations you had for your children. To those who did not have children in school, but were in school yourselves, we also invite you to look back upon our history to appreciate your heritage. To those of you who may read our book out of curiosity, we invite you, also, to a century of educational drama in which all of Republic County was the stage and every citizen played a part.





## WITH APOLOGIES

### DEAR READERS

If we have not recorded all the things you think we should,  
Please forgive us.

If we have recorded things you think we should not,  
Please forgive us.

We seek to serve and to please you,  
But there are reasons, in most cases,  
Why we do, or don't do  
If an error should creep in  
Please forgive us.

## DIRECTORY 1954-1955

## WEEKS PRIZE WINNERS

### PASSING OF THE COUNTRY SCHOOL HOUSE

The schoolhouse on the country highway  
I still remember well,  
It's sturdy desks and painted walls,  
The music of its bells.

I hear an echo through the years  
Of voices once I knew,  
An echo only, all are gone  
Except an ageing few.

The weather-beaten country schoolhouse  
Still dozes in the sun,  
Its day outgrown, it squats forsaken  
With duty nobly done.

The quickened memory turns to sadness  
And water fills the eyes.  
So may this passing landmark have  
A merciful demise.

The disappearing country schoolhouse  
The shrine of childhood years,  
Contains the ghosts of recollection  
That passing time endears.

And draws at thinly woven veil  
Between those scenes and me,  
And points to greater things, I hope  
A better world to be.

—Sent by Pearl Hyde, Augusta, Kan. R.R. 3

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2	Pleasant View (Pleasant Hill)		42
3	Wayne		43
4	Haworth (not same as Cuba Settlement No 4)		46
5	Stony Point (from Original School No 5)		50
6	Scandia (New Scandinavia)		52
7	Farmington		57
8	Beck		58
9	Central		60
10	Crescent		62
11	Eureka		68
12	Beebee		70
13	Albion		72
14	Belleville		72
15	Midway		75
16	Gleason		76
17	Odell		80
18	Stover		81
19	Bethlehem		83
20	Munden		90
21	Hill		92
22	Belleville Center		94
23	Norway		96
24	Pleasant Valley		99
25	McCune		101
26	Zion		104
27	Seapo		105
28	Orr		106
29	White		108
30	Maple Grove		110
31	Meter		111
32	Oak Creek		114
33	Tabor		116
34	Silverthorne		121
35	Summit Point		125
36	Victor		126
37	Stony Point		128
38	Pawnee		129
39	Union Valley		131
40	Manning		136
41	Willow Dale		137
42	Enterprise		138
43	Spring Hill		140
44	Star		141
45	Pine		142
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60	Grace Hill		166
61	Pleasant Grove		168
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63	Republic		170
64	Prairie Rose		



65	Lincoln (Jt. 2 R.J.)	171
66	Excelsior	173
67	Dillehay	175
68	Ida	176
69	Lake	178
70	Mount Vernon	179
71	Victory	180
72	Pleasant Vale Park Hill	181
73	Kunkel	183
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79	Washington Central	193
80	Harper	195
81	Day	197
82	Pleasant View	198
83	Miller	198
84	Poplar Grove (Superior No. I)	199
85	Elm Grove	200
86	Prairie Home	201
87	Downing	203
88	Eighty-Eight	206
89	Spooner	208
90	Whitelock	209
91	Little Brick (Little Stone)	211
92	Center Valley (Morehead)	212
93	Fairview	212
94	Dry Lake	214
95	Hungry Hollow	215
96	Center	217
97	Blue Mound	219
98	Mercer	221
99	Ninety-Nine(Gabrielson)	223
100	Bollen	224
101	Blue Grass	227
102	Triumph	227
103	Turkey Creek	228
104	Salt Marsh	229
105	Talmo	230
106	Union Ridge	233
107	Beulah	233
108	Grant	235
109	Willow Dale	236
110	Mount Erie	237
111	Cuba	238
112	Red Top	246
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114	Thomas	249
115	Lowland	251
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# SCHOOL NAMES ALPHABETIZED:

Agenda	113	Miller	83
Albion	13	Milner	62
Ash Grove	79	Morehead	92
Bates	51	Mt. Erie	110
Beauchamp	59	Mt. Vernon	70
Beck	8	Munden	20
Beebee	12	Narka	118
Belleville	14	Ninety-Nine (Gabrielson)	99
Belleville Center	22	Norway	23
Bethlehem	19	Oak Creek	32
Beulah	107	Odell	17
Blue Grass	101	Orr	28
Blue Mound	97	Parkhill	
Bowling Green	50	Pawnee	38
Bollen	100	Pine	45
Center	96	Pleasant Grove (Ambrose)	61
Center Valley	92	Pleasant Hill	2
Central	9	Pleasant Vale	72
Courtland	46	Pleasant Valley	72
Courtland Center	96	Pleasant Valley	24
Crescent	10	Pleasant View	2
Cuba	111	Pleasant View	55
Day	81	Pleasant View	82
Dillehay	67	Poplar Grove	84
Downing	87	Prairie Center	77
Dry Lake	94	Prairie Dell	77
Eighty-Eight	88	Prairie Flower	58
Elm Grove	85	Prairie Grove	1
Enterprise	42	Prairie Home	86
Eureka	11	Prairie Rose	64
Excelsior	66	Red Top	112
Fairview	3	Republic City	63
Fairview	93	Rose Creek Center	116
Farmington	7	Rosemound	76
Forty-Eight	48	Round Grove	53
Forty-Six	46	Salt Marsh	104
Freedom Center	54	Scandia	6
Gleason	16	Seapo	27
Grace Hill	60	Silverthorne	34
Grant	108	Spooner Mount Pleasant	89
Harper	80	Spring Hill	43
Haworth	4	Star (East)	44
Highland	47	Star	57
Hill	21	Stone	91
Hungry Hollow (Stanton)	95	Stone	10
Hurley	122	Stony Point	5
Ida	68	Stony Point	37
Island	119	Stover	18
Jefferson Center	120	Summit Point	35
John Brown	75	Tabor	33
Kackley	121	Talmo	105
Kunkel	73	Thomas	114
Lake	69	Triumph	102
Lawrence	49	Turkey Creek	103
Liberty (Dickerhoof)	74	Union Ridge	106
Liberty Center	56	Union Valley	39
Lincoln	65	Victor (Ant Hill)(Hiatt)	36
Little Brick	91	Victory	71
Little Stone	91	Warwick	78
Lone Tree	117	Washington	52
Lowland	115	Washington Central	79
Manning (Early No. 5)	40	Wayne	3
Maple Grove	30	Willow Dale	41
McCune	25	Willow Dale	109
Meter	31	White	29
Mercer	98	Whitelock	90
Midway	15	White Rock City	Jt. 1, J-R
		Zion	26

Unified District 455 included Agenda, Cuba, and Narka known as Hillcrest organized 1966.

Unified District 427 included Munden, Republic and Belleville.

Unified District 426 included Scandia, Norway, Kackley, and Courtland.

These three Unified Districts include all the rural high school districts, the rural schools and the city schools of Republic County. All land area is now in a high school area (one of those three districts) which was not true under the rural high school districts which were not identical to elementary districts, some of which were not in any high school district.

#### EDUCATORS OF REPUBLIC COUNTY

1895-1976

The following is a list of people who have had at least ten years of experience in the field of education in Republic County. The number following the name is the number of years experience. A (+) denotes that the person is still serving in an educational capacity.

We regret that because of missing records this list is not entirely accurate.

Helen F. Adams	15
Emma Adamson	12
+Mrs. Opal Allday	23
Edith Anderson	11
+Mrs. Esther Milner Anderson	37
Floy Anderson	33
James Anderson	10
Nellie Anderson	17
Mary Anthony	46
Mrs. Edith Atkinson	19
Mrs. Rosemary Balaun	
Glen Barleen	10
Henry F. Barstow	
Mrs. Joyce Barstow	
Mrs. Helen P. Beck	25
Mrs. Zellah Mosher Berggren	19
Alma Bergstrom	11
Carl H. Beyer	20
E.E. Bliss	32
Mrs. Jessie Boelling	17
Mrs. Nettie Bowersox	14
Joseph Boyd	14
Dale Boyles	11
Mrs. Nadine Tibbs Brown	14
+Mrs. Hazel A. Burge	12
Paul B. Burke	10
R. E. Butler	16
Hazel Campbell	13
Bessie Carey	12
Margie Carpenter	16
+Larry Cates	14
Harold Chatlain	16
Hugh Clark	10
Mrs. Vera Cockrum	10
Mrs. Esther Coonrod	20
+Mrs. Laveda Ball Cornett	30
Bernice Cosand	10
Hazel Countryman	44
Nora Creighton	11
Mrs. Laverne Larsen Currie	29
Mrs. Trella Reiber Currie	13
Gust Danielson	10
Garnett Davidson	12

Leonard Davidson	11
Orel Davidson	12
Mrs. Dora Devore	25
Fannie Dilsaver	19
Mrs. Sylvia Logan Donaldson	12
Marjorie Douglas	10
Edna Duskin	10
Mrs. Edith Dolezal Effenbeck	10
Dora Engle	10
Mrs. Nina Uglow Engwall	19
Mrs. Otie Cole Erickson	11
Mrs. Catherine Wells Farley	15
Mrs. Frances Fickel	14
+Frank Filipi, Jr.	22
Gerald Fisher	17
Nels Florell	18
Mrs. Olive Valek Fojt	25
Nettie Fraser	11
Mrs. Ethel Johnson Freeman	10
Fannie Frost	10
Grace Galloway	25
Mary Gile	10
Virgie Goodger	10
Mrs. Frances Graham	11
Frances Gritten	23
Mary L. Gritten	17
Kenneth Guthrie	20
Mrs. Madelyn Guthrie	11
A. O. Hainline	14
Mrs. Hazle Poole Hanzlick	10
Mrs. Elvira Peterson Hansen	13
Irma Harris	10
+Mrs. Phyllis Anderson Havel	22
Stella Havel	10
Wilda Hay	11
+Ernest Heikes	10
Laura Hill	47
Donald Hinks	20
Julia Hodge	41
Carl Hodson	10
+Walter Holdren	10
Mrs. Viola Houdek	14
Mrs. Dale Huffman	11
Lewis Jeardoe	42
Mrs. Burnice Pearson Jensen	18
+Mrs. Marilyn Rownd Jensen	14
Mrs. Elvie Johnson	24
Mrs. Esther Isaacson Johnson	10
Mrs. Evelyn Johnson	10
Harold J. Johnson	10
+Louis Johnson	15
+Marion L. Johnson	11
Mrs. Mary Arbuthnot Johnson	29
Rudolph Johnson	41
Ronald Jones	10
Mrs. Helen Kadavy Joy	29
+Mrs. Neva McChesney Joy	22
+Karla Kadavy	16
Mrs. Ruth Mead Kasperek	10
+Larry Kaufman	10
Mrs. Irene Keeling	17
Mrs. Clarice Dewey Kelley	20
Mrs. Thressa Kelly	30
+Mrs. Betty Newburn King	29
+Nelson King	30
Emma Klaumann	10
+Mrs. Marie Drapal Klima	38

+Mrs. Elvie Monson Konovalsky	19
Mrs. Evelyn Kosek	17
Richard Lachman	10
+Sharon Lambert	10
Julia Larson	10
C.M. Leggitt	11
Helen Lesovsky	14
Mrs. Margaret Opocensky Lesovsky	24
Mrs. Ella Hurley Levendofsky	10
Mrs. Gladys Levendofsky	13
Florence Lowe	40
Edythe Lowell	41
Elizabeth McCracken	22
Mrs. Velda Smith McCullough	41
Mrs. Winifred McEuen	10
Mrs. Elsie Sankey McMannama	12
Mrs. Emma Frint Makalous	26
W. J. Matthias	30
+Mrs. Grace Melton	10
Mrs. Mildred Kelly Moore	15
+Mrs. Ella Rytch Moravek	29
+Mrs. May Robison Morrison	18
Mrs. Hazel Mulch	30
Mrs. Grace Naylor	16
Margaret Nelson	11
Jessie E. Nichols	12
Mrs. Geraldine Novak	17
+Mrs. Dorothy Mitchell Novotny	40
Mrs. Wilda Eickmann Novotny	15
Gertrude Nutter	11
Mrs. Luella Buthman Nystrom	19
Flossie Martin Olson	21
H.B. Olson	26
Viola Olson	11
Mrs. Ruth Owen	11
Lillian Palacek	13
+Delore Patton	21
Emma Poage	36
Emma Powers	15
Mrs. Lucille Leonard Pressnall	25
Mrs. Mary Jansky Price	30
Mrs. Sarah Washburn Proft	23
Ivan Prochaska	11
Harry C. Quantic	22
+Mrs. Sybil Davidson Rahe	28
Jed J. Ramsey	10
+Mrs. Evelyn Redden	30
Benjamin Renner	10
+Mrs. Bonnie Kadavy Rightmeier	17
Edna Robison	47
Sadie Robison	19
Ella Rockhold	42
Ellen Rosenquist	42
Mable Rosenquist	10
Inga Rydell	11
George W. Saip	18
+Ray Salmon	10
Lena Sankey	13
Evelyn Schafer	17
Mabel Shaver	10
Mrs. Elsie Morehead Shellhase	10
Mrs. Johannah Hurley Sheridan	12
Myra Sherwood	13
Mrs. Bernice Shirley	15
Mrs. Sylvia Kadavy Shoemaker	10
Alva Simmons	12

Virgil Skipton	14
Mrs. Joan Slagle	14
Melvin M. Smart	12
Mrs. Ardna Strom Smith	11
Mrs. Doris Dewey Smith	25
Ella L. Smith-Swenson	13
Evelyn V. Smith-Lewallen	11
Mrs. Hazel Smith-Dejmal	10
+Eugene Spannenberg	25
Charles Stafford	13
Annabel Sterba	10
C.C. Sterba	11
+Raymond Stewart	40
+Mrs. Josephine Rundus Strnad	22
Mrs. Anne Filinger Swiercinsky	14
Mrs. Bess Swoyer	13
Mrs. Muriel Reed Tallent	32
Cecil Tillman	12
+Mrs. Helen Kadlec Trzicky	27
Mrs. Mildred Mead Van Horn	17
Wesley Vytalacil	21
Mrs. Eva J. Meiller Walker	11
Minta Walter	28
Mrs. Carrie Keith Whipp	46
+Grace Woodford	36
Mrs. Sarah Wright	16
Veryle Young	12
Wilbur Young	12
Mildred Zach	10
Anna Zavodsky	11
Winfred Zenger	11
Raymond Zurfluh	15

Compiled by Mrs. Helen P. Beck, Miss Florence Lowe, Miss Edna Robison and many others.

#### A TRIBUTE TO KANSAS TEACHERS

A tribute to teachers-  
 To Kansas teachers-  
 (Not of Miltonian calibre-but sincere)  
 Begin with teachers in the one-room schools of the  
 Sunflower State-  
 Many worked their way thru college-  
 And on the teaching jobs  
 Walked miles from boarding houses to schools-  
 In rain storms, wind storms, snow storms  
 Sometimes killing poisonous snakes to get there-  
 But NOTHING kept them from getting there.  
 Then they built fires-  
 Carried water for the fountain-  
 Rang bells to call in 40, 50, 60 or more healthy, lively  
 young Kansans-  
 Took roll, had opening exercises  
 Replete with THE LORD'S PRAYER, a  
 BIBLE reading, "The Pledge of Allegiance"  
 And a verse or two from the National Anthem-  
 Then began a long day of hearing lessons,  
 Blowing noses,  
 Mopping up after accidents,  
 Comforting injured feelings,  
 Guiding thoughts, feelings and actions into paths of  
 beauty, ethics, and morality.  
 Then getting children into storm clothing,  
 Giving each pupil a heartening "Good Night"  
 Collapsing into the teacher's chair for a few minutes' rest  
 Before making plans for the next day.



Then sweeping the floor and dusting the furniture-  
 Banking fires-locking up-  
 And dragging weary feet back to the boarding houses-  
 A little rest, some supper, some reading  
 And early to bed-

Hail, too, to the Kansas teachers of today  
 Who carry on the responsibilities and traditions  
 Who face problems and hardships  
 Going on!

Teaching children to live happily, ethically and morally-  
 Teaching children to be responsible citizens-

Teaching children to avoid pollution

Teaching children to be literate

Teaching children to dream of a world

Where needs of all people are met-

Adjusting over night to new ways of teaching-

Filling out endless, and all too often meaningless,  
 reports-

Attending countless meetings on their own time-

Being evaluated by people who often were failures at  
 teaching-

And couldn't tell good teaching from bad-

Who can't give top ratings

Back to the teachers; Lest they appear to have no stan-  
 dards-

Going home to cook family dinners-

Taking care of family-nursing the sick-writing the absent-  
 sewing-comforting-inspiring-

Doing Community work-

Doing church work-

With chins up-

Hearts glad-

Teachers-following His example-

Being with Him professionally-

For He was also a teacher-

Being proud of being TEACHERS.

For you, I wish  
 years of happy living  
 Happy teaching

With kind, understanding administrators

With thick pocket books

And large savings bank accounts-

Time to rest and dream

Time to explore our Earth

Time to translate noble poems

Into noble thoughts, feelings and actions.

Time to try out new wigs, new dresses

and even new hot pants.

Time to be YOU

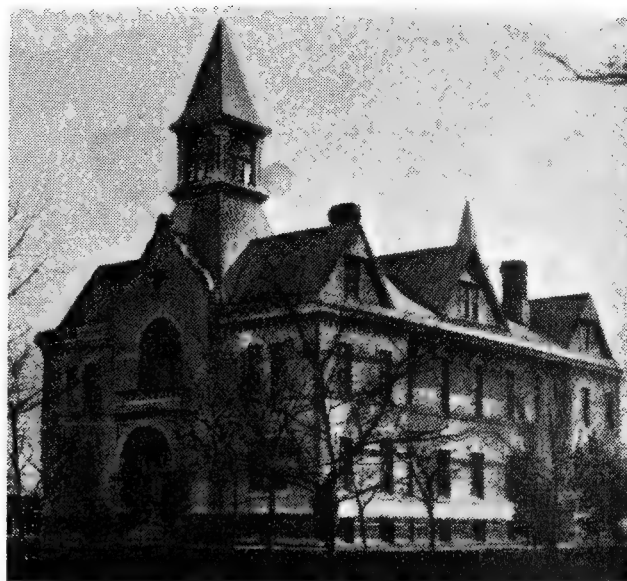
Bless you.

George Murphy

#### OFFICE OF COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS OF REPUBLIC COUNTY AND ROSTER BELLEVILLE, KANSAS

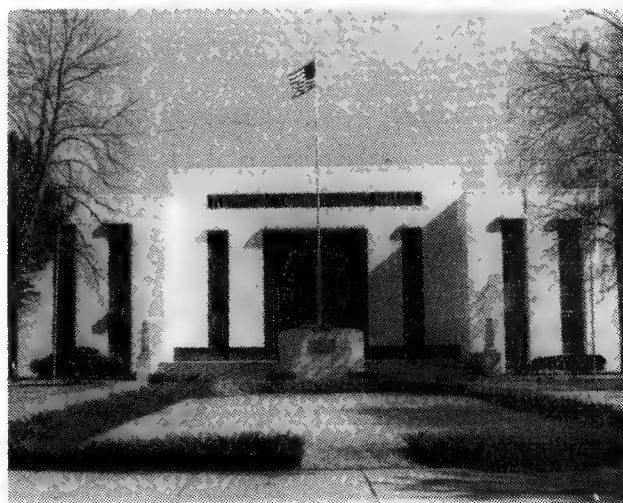
Governor Crawford appointed the first County  
 Commissioners and the first County Superintendent, W.  
 Lancaster, with the first county government held at  
 Pleasant View School in Section 17 in Jefferson Township.

In a few years the Republic County Court House at  
 Belleville was completed and here the Office of the County  
 Superintendent was located.



#### ROLL OF COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS

Benjamin F. Saylor	1868-69
Charles Hogan	1869-70
Wilson Lancaster	1870-72
Albert D. Marble	1872-74
David C. Gamble	1874-76
J.C. Price	1876-78
J.H. McCall	1878-80
J.W. Lawrence	1880-86
B.T. Bullen	1886-90
C.E. Costello (Costolo) or (Costelo)	1890-92
E.L. Glasgow	1892-96
Lucy Howard	1896-1901



On April 1, 1938 the Republic County Court House  
 burned and this new sturcture took its place on the Public  
 Square.

E.E. Baird	1901-05
L.W. Nutter	1905-09
W.M. Slopansky	1909-13
Euna F. Arrasmith	1913-17
Mary Jansky	1917-21
Frances J. Fickel	1921-23
Mary Jansky	1923-25
Clare C. Baldwin	1925-26
Zellah Mosher	1926-27
Clare C. Baldwin	1927-31
Laura M. Hill	1931-33
Marvin E. Larson	1933-37
Madison Coombs	1937-41
Fannie Dilsaver	1941-47
Thressa Kelly	1947-55
William Matthias	1955-69



The first County Superintendent in the brand new Court House was Madison Coombs. His office on the second floor had walnut paneling, blue rubber tile floors and art metal desk - all very fancy in 1940.

#### OUR FIRST WOMAN SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Miss Lucy Howard grew up on a farm in Grant Township, one of the early townships of Republic County where white settlers first made their homes. It seems most fitting that the first lady to become the superintendent of public instruction should come from this area.

From 1896 until 1901 she served the schools, traveling by horse and buggy to visit schools and make her official reports concerning them. This was the period when rural population in schools over our county was crowded. A high school education was to be desired, but many could not leave home to obtain more education, so they remained in school in the rural communities until they were nineteen or twenty.

There were no county graduation programs, but every small town or community held commencement exercises for the schools nearby. Miss Howard attended these to the far reaches of the county and it staggers the imagination to think how she could have been in Republic one evening and in Norway the next evening. According to the directories of that time, this is what she did.

She also held County Institutes which were a month long and were, in reality, what amounted to a summer



school at the end of which teachers' examinations were given. Teachers who passed these were qualified to teach the next year or two.

We salute Lucy Howard, one of our nine women superintendents, for her five years spent toward betterment of education.

#### EDUCATION IN RETROSPECT

It is my good fortune to be elected to the Office of County Superintendent immediately following the closing term of Euna Arrasmith who was a very capable school



supervisor.

Just at that time people began to wake up to the fact that the box type school house, with cross lights and poor

heating equipment should be changed for something better. Many people were building modern homes, but they clung to the old school house with the thought that they were good enough.

Well, times and people changed. During the next few years many schools decided to build better buildings, of cottage type, and having proper lighting and heat. Others followed in close succession, while many, still hung back, with the theory that "good enough" was the answer.

Some of the outstanding events through the school year were: the first central Commencement in 1918 for eighth graders. The largest class was near the 300 mark. This was an interesting event for the entire County. Sometimes a Basket Dinner in the park, with an interesting program following at the Opera House, Church, or, later, at the new Blair Theatre which had the largest seating capacity in town. Honors were bestowed upon the pupils who received the highest grades.

In the spring the Township and County Spelling Contests brought a large crowd to Belleville. The Contest is still being continued through the State and National Department. We wonder why they still have only Oral spelling, which is no real test of a child's spelling ability. Out of a hundred words, written, he may be able to spell a large percent-possibly 95 or better, yet, in oral spelling if one word is misspelled, the youngster is "out". How much actual use do people have for oral spelling? As Tibbetts always say "Think about it".

Personally, I hated to see the office of County Superintendent discontinued. It was just one of the means of bringing people into close touch with the boys and girls of the entire county, and was a sort of measuring stick and a high goal for better education.

The children of the rural schools have gone out into the world making plans for themselves creditably, as well as those of the larger school units. So it has brought a little heart ache to the Superintendents who have served in this capacity to see the home and school contact disappear.

Time was when I had a close acquaintance with folks in all parts of the country, and now, after fifty years, I still meet people frequently who will recall that I was "County Superintendent" of schools. It is a thrill to know people and to have worked with them in the interest of their boys and girls.

MARY JANSKY-PRICE

#### MISS LAURA HILL — CAREER EDUCATOR

Miss Laura Hill was born in 1886 and received her education in the Belleville City Schools. After her high school graduation in 1905, she began teaching the next year in the Belleville seventh grade. According to Mr. Howard Anderson, a former pupil of hers, she taught there for many years. He says "she was the best teacher I ever had - always thorough, especially in math". As nearly as can be determined, she taught there until Miss Jansky asked her to be her deputy. She is sitting at the left in the above picture.

Having had several years experience as assistant superintendent, she decided to enter the political arena and run for county superintendent. She was successful and served a two-year term, 1931-33, following Clare C.



Baldwin.

After this, she taught in the rural schools until she retired in 1953. Her educational career of 47 years was one which had touched the lives of many students and teachers in a positive manner always. She died in 1969, having lived to see the completion of a cycle in education including one-room schools, consolidated schools, and finally culminating in 1966 with the large unified districts.

#### WHAT OPPORTUNITY MEANS

John Rundus, an educated Bohemian, with justifiable pride sends me the story of the rise of a Bohemian girl, Mary Jansky, who was elected last fall to the office of county superintendent of public instruction in Republic county. Mr. Rundus says Miss Jansky is the first woman of Bohemian descent in the United States to be elected to that office. However that to me is not the really interesting part of Mr. Rundus's story.

Mary Jansky's father was a Bohemian musician who migrated to America before Mary was born and located in a Kansas dugout. He was not only entirely unacquainted with the English language but if he was like most musicians was rather helpless when it came to working on a farm. So naturally the family saw a great deal of hardship. When Mary was only 8 years old she was taken by an American family and went to school in return for the work she could do. From that time on Mary knew what hard work was, helping in the kitchen, driving the cows from the pasture, milking often as many as eight of them in the morning and evenings caring for the horses, sewing rags together for the carpet and going to school when she could. She made her way through high school at Clyde, working for her board in a well-to-do family home.

Of all this Mary makes no complaint. On the contrary she learned not only self-reliance but a lot of practical domestic science as well. Finally she qualified herself for teaching and made a success. And now she is the first woman of her people to reach the very important and responsible position of county superintendent of schools. This story illustrates what the opportunity of a free country will do. Mary Jansky in the land of her fathers would never have had the opportunity. This land of opportunity has demonstrated another thing which is that there is no such thing as a class endowed with superior brains and ability. Democracy has demonstrated over and over again that the greatest figures in history came from the ranks of the lowly.

— Tom McNeal in Mail and Breeze.

First elected in 1917.  
served 1st time- 1917-21.  
served 2nd time - 1923-25

#### FRANCES J. FICKEL - PUBLISHER AND TEACHER

County superintendents were always plagued with the difficulty of communication to the teachers and school boards out over the county, so Mrs. Frances Fickel determined that during her two-year term of office (1921-1922) she would publish the Republic County School News. On page two we read that it was a monthly periodical (six pages) devoted to the interests of the schools of Republic County. The subscription price was 50 cents per year. In the June issue for 1922 (courtesy of Olive Fojt) Mrs. Fickel devoted some space to the annual visitation of the county Health Officer, Dr. J. W. West, advising the school boards to leave the key in "a convenient place" so that he could get the necessary information needed for his report concerning the building, school yard, outbuildings, water supply and the classroom. She advised that all water for drinking purposes should be "delivered through a bubbling fountain."

Mrs. Fickel also was urging all teachers to plan to attend the Republic County Institute August 7-12. High school Juniors and Seniors expecting to teach should take this opportunity to listen in. All teachers holding county certificates "are expected to attend as this is the one important meeting of the season."

There was a striking diversity of results in Mrs. Fickel's comparison of the graduating classes for 1921 and 1922. In 1921 247 eighth graders tried to finish the "common branches" and 194 were in the graduating class - only 78 percent were successful. In 1922 she reported only 174 tried to finish and 159 were successful, or 90 percent of those who tried.

Many readers will remember that Wm. Hay was a contributor to a number of newspapers and periodicals for many years. Mrs. Fickel has included "A Poem for the Graduate" of 56 lines by Mr. Hay. He uses only one stanza for a backward look and all the rest is concerned with the future of the Graduate:

"Oh, Graduate, dear Graduate,  
How much the world expects,  
And while you still are learning,  
Some things at times will vex,  
But with a steady purpose,  
And an aim that's always high,  
You'll ever be the winner,  
For God is always nigh."

Her paper contained many quotations from the essays that the 1922 graduates were requested to write. According to their writing, that class had been taught well the respect for government, for law, for discipline, for citizenship, for hard work.

The Common School Graduates having an Average of 90 percent or above were: Martha Pettyjohn, Sylvia Svatapolsky, Ivan Scofield, Louise Baird, Hilda Moline, Gayle Vasha, Louise Neuvians, Gladys Bradley, Geo. McKenna, Clarence Goppert, Harold Kramer, Keith Sexton, John Shimek, Rotha Shepard, Olive Valek, Anna Celoud, Clarence Cleveland, Naomi Figgins, Shirley Hogue, Inga Rydell, Mary Kauer, Marvin Rosene, Lois Swiercinsky, Gladys Hjortholm and Perry Rashleigh.

A niece of Mrs. Fickel's was able to provide us with more information concerning the life of her aunt: Mrs. Frances J. Fickel was born Frances Josina Loofbourrow on April 5, 1885 on the farm of John Loofbourrow. Her father had homesteaded about three miles east of Norway in Republic County. Death came suddenly, while she was baking cookies, on the same farm on April 9, 1941, sad-

dening her relatives and many friends.

Her first marriage to Walter Fickel lasted only two years. In later life she married Claude Adams with whom she lived until her death.

Mrs. Helen Loofbourrow Mantz, who lives in Smith Center, related that her aunt enjoyed her career of teaching and superintendency. The nieces and a nephew remember her as a kind and generous aunt, who did many nice things for them - gifts, trips, celebrations of special days. She inspired Helen to become a teacher - five years in Republic County - 17 years altogether. So we all remember her as willing to go "the extra mile" to reach established goals.

#### OUR YOUNG SUPERINTENDENT DOES NOT QUALIFY - UNTIL HE IS OLDER

Clare C. Baldwin was elected Superintendent of Public Instruction on November 4, 1924. On Nov. 11, 1924 he was declared elected. Clare served as county superintendent from July 1925 until June 30, 1926.

The Board of County Commissioners was in session June 7, 8, 9 in 1926. The Board instructed the County Clerk M. L. Hill "to get in touch with Zellah Mosher and arrange a meeting with the Board if possible."

The Board adjourned until Wednesday, June 30, 1926. At this time the Board met at the office of the County Clerk and per adjournment and Miss Zellah Mosher met with them. "Thereupon the Board appointed Miss Zellah Mosher to the office of County Superintendent of Public Instruction of Republic County for the remainder of the term. The Board adjourned sine die.

(Signed)

M. L. Hill, Co. Clerk

The official bond of Zellah Mosher was approved by the Board of County Commissioners August 3, 1926.

Miss Zellah Mosher served from June 30, 1926 until June 1927 when Clare C. Baldwin again became County Superintendent, having been elected in November 1926.

#### A FEW HIGHLIGHTS OF MY TERM AS REPUBLIC COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT

Zellah Mosher-Berggren





## Four Highest Averages In County Both Graded And Rural

	District
Paul Blackwood	105
Edna Anderson	99
Leona Holmberg	3
Gerhard Nelson	61

## Honor Students In County

Graded	
Ercel Flock	118
Clarence Abraham	3
Helen Dannefer	111
Twila Blecha	118
Alice Ringer	Con. 3

Rural	
Elizabeth Burns	32
Edna Ball	22
Dean Bowersox	39
Donald Charles	45
Audrey Ebright	83
Eugene Emmert	64
Lucille Hadachek	51
Melvin Haworth	40
Vivian Knedlik	43
Wilma Powell	83
Bertha Simmons	83
Merna Saunders	83
Lillian Trecek	84
Vivian Tiller	93

## Pupils Receiving 100% In Various Subjects

SPELLING—Paul Blackwood, District 105.

ARITHMETIC—Edna Anderson, District 99; Paul Blackwood, 105; Gerald Canning, 94; Loren Everett, 82; Wayne Hall, 39; Melvin Haworth, 40; Pearl Johnson, 17; Vivian Knedlik, 43; Gerhard Nelson, 61; Anna Rundus, 55; Elden Sallman, 91; Duane Stafford, 52; Vivian Tiller, 93; Lorren Curtis, 118.

UNITED STATE HISTORY—Edna Anderson, District 99; Elizabeth Burns, 32; Paul Blackwood, 105; Melvin Haworth, 40; Wilma Powell, 83; Merna Saunders, 83.

KANSAS HISTORY—Wilberine Breckenridge, District 5; Leona Davis, 42; Francis Fox, 105; Ruby Kackley, 24; William Pettyjohn, 105; Selbe Powell, 83; Ila Shimek, 10; Victoria Shimek, 10; Lillian Trecek, 34; Clarice Wallin, 42; John Chopp, 20.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT—Edna Anderson, District 99; Frankie Blazek, 34; Paul Blackwood, 105; Donald Charles, 45; Gerhard Nelson, 61; Leona Holmberg, 3.

PHYSIOLOGY—Leona Davis, Dist. 42; Mary Holgerson, District 32; Rosa Jewell, Dist. 37; Florence Sweet, Dist. 18.

AGRICULTURE—Edna Anderson, District 99; Paul Blackwood, 105; Francis Fox, 105.

CLASSICS—Twila Blecha, District 118; Leona Holmberg, 3; Marie Kovarik, 20.

## CLASS ROLL

District	District
Park Applegarth 9	Goldie Doggett 41
Lawrence Adams 117	Elton Daggett 22
Mabel Anderson 61	Frances Dake 115
Viola Allen 75	Elmer Dolezal 33
Myrtle Allen 75	Louise Dugger 115
Blanche Ames 112	Loren Everett 62
William Brewer 93	Joe Etter 87
Yelma Baughan 23	Edna Farlee 84
Ellen Bergstrom 31	Paul Frederickson 51
Henry Baxa 73	Mabel Fisher 25
Frankie Blazek 34	Ellery Forney 50
Ben Blazek 73	Virgie Goodger 21
Wilberine Breckenridge 5	Kenneth Goodger 21
Vaughn Bever 13	Garland Goodger 59
Elwood Baughan 23	Margett Hansen 37
Norman Branson 60	Frances Hansen 40
Marie Belden 45	Lucille Horner 105
Walter Bohling 79	Wayne Hall 39
Wilma Brzon 94	Goldie Hammil 117
Helen Ball 55	Lloyd Hallgren 91
Joye Bowers 16	Hazel Hammond 39
Don Bowersox 93	Rudolph Havel 114
Fred Boman 84	Veda Ingraham 47
Bertha Cibolski 103	Sylvia Houdek 120
Ruth Curtis Jt. 2	Willie Hanel 4
Gerald Canning 94	Olive Havel 89
Roy Carey 54	Elsie Huncovsky 4
Velma Childs 71	Fred Homolac 16
Ruth Clabaugh 55	Bessie Homolka 116
Maxine Cory 71	Yeda Ingraham 47
Lynn Dovel 30	Ethel Johnson 82
Arlatha Daugherty 85	Ruth Johnson 82
Leonard Davidson 70	Pearl Johnson 17
Velma Dooley 55	Lorraine Johnson 105
Frances Dodge 81	Helen Johnson 84

Vesta Joy 44	Gladys Schwabauer 66
Lillie Jehlik 116	Dora Seip 26
Raymond Jakabosky 25	Myra Sherwood 107
Opal Faye Jenkins 58	Edwin Seaman 60
Olive Kallman 9	Edyth Seamon 43
Mayme Kasl 2	Dale Simmons 108
Eleanor Klammann 29	Rosalie Spichal 110
Wesley Klima 29	Vera Scofield 41
Charles Kauer 73	Ruby Stafford 61
Elmer Kauer 31	Eva Smith 43
Anton Krob 73	Wilma Smith 22
Mildred Keperta 34	Lilly Schleifer 79
Ernest Kolman 29	Emma Strnad 119
Ruby Kackley 24	Ludwick Tuma 44
Donald Kvasnicka 53	Laura Tuma 44
Bennie Kvasnicka 44	Forrest Tallent 117
Iris Kenley 108	Warren Tallent 69
Helen Kuhn 35	Elsie Vishnefski 41
Margaret Kuhn 60	Bessie Verley 115
Mildred Kuhn 60	Ester Varnick 47
Lorene Kuchera 33	Edith Verley 115
Alfred Lauritzen 18	Harold Workman 49
Bertha Levendofsky 7	Ella Weers 97
Clare Lash 112	Florence Westhausen 1
Helen McGregor 93	Faye Wilford 102
Paul McCullough 17	Woodrow Abraham 3
Vera Myers 18	Ivan Bergstrom 121
Kenneth Moore 92	Afton Campbell 3
Anita Medlin 120	Lynn Campbell 8
Lucille Mahaffey 112	Gladys Cleveland 113
Anna Mach 30	Virgil Cure 69
Max Muth 42	Lorren Curtis 118
Ethel Nelson 61	Sylvia Dovel 118
Leslie Nelson 39	Donald Englund 3
Frank Novak 60	Annie Fischer 77
Annie Novak 33	Faye Fischer 118
Edward Norlund 28	Bertha Gleason 20
Orville Noble 60	Vera Gregory 20
Bert Noble 99	Duane Hanson Con. 3
Maurice Nutter 98	Leda Havel 113
Elmer Perry 76	Wilma Hogle 118
Blue Belle Persinger 85	Leda Huncovsky 113
Ruth Printz 108	Azel Joy 118
Bessie Proft 28	Arthur Kosek 118
Wilma Pressnall 15	Marie Kovarik 20
Lawrence Pressnall 8	Merle Logsdon Con. 3
Glenn Peters 16	Edna Nelson Con. 3
Anna Rundus 55	Thelma Ryman 113
Harold Richardson 43	Vera Sisson 69
Anne Ryttych 116	Edith Slipsager 121
Leona Segerhammar 104	Ivan Vance 77
Ila Shimek 10	Warren Scott Con. 3
Ictoria Shimek 10	Bunice Stafford 102
Elden Sallman 91	Duane Stafford 52
Evelyn Swanson 91	

I recall several outstanding occasions during my term as County Superintendent for 1926-1927.

The first was my unexpected appointment. I was on a Colorado vacation with my parents. In trying to reach me, the County Commissioners called Rexford, Kansas and were told I was in Bird City, Kans. Again they were told I had gone from there to Arriba, Colorado, where they finally reached me at eleven o'clock at night. This was on Friday, and when they asked me if I would consider assuming the office of County Superintendent on the following Monday morning, I was so surprised my reply was, "No, yes, wait a minute." My parents graciously consented to forgo their vacation trip and returned home with me.

The County Commissioners met with me on Monday morning and presented the keys to the office into my care.

They were: E. L. Shepard, Chrmn., Wayne - C. G. Aspegren, Republic - Jas. Ramsbottom, Munden. In 1927 F. W. Lowe, Narka became commissioner.

Another memorable day was June 14, 1927 when 205 eighth grade graduates received their diplomas at the Majestic Theatre, after a noon luncheon when the program was given by the graduates of the county.

The Valedictory was given by Paul Blackwood of Talmo Dist. 105 (Lewis Jeardoe was his teacher) and the Salutatory was by Edna Anderson of Dist. 99, Leona Holmberg, Dist. 99 was third place and Gerhard Nelson of Dist. 61 had fourth highest average.

The Class Address "The Magic Touch" was delivered by Professor H. E. Bradford of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

The group picture was taken on the bleachers, erected





by the Belleville Chamber of Commerce, on the north side of the Court House.

A Normal Institute for teachers was held in August, 1926. There were 106 teachers enrolled. Several were from surrounding counties and some were from Nebraska. Besides the regular curriculum, there was a new course offered - "Industrial Arts." This course proved to be very popular among the teachers. Mrs. Fowler was the instructor. Miss Edythe Lowell also taught the "Art of Flower Making."

A most disagreeable incident with which I had to cope, was the operation of two unscrupulous book salesmen selling encyclopedias to beginning teachers. Their encyclopedias were not on the approved list and they used highly unorthodox pressure to convince the teachers that they were required to buy the books.

As soon as I heard of their presence and their tactics, I asked them to meet with me in my office the next morning. I also asked our County Attorney to be present. After clearly stating my views of their obnoxious behavior, I asked them to be out of the county by the next morning or I would start legal proceedings against them. They were gone the next morning. I advised the teachers who had ordered the books not to accept them when they arrived, as they had been pressured into ordering them.

I notified the County Superintendents in surrounding counties of our experience, and a few days later, the two salesmen were arrested in Brown County.

I was unable to attend the last Teacher-School Board Meeting in the spring of 1927. Why?? I was home entertaining a real "Swell Event." I had the mumps! My efficient assistant, Mrs. Cora Campbell, assumed my responsibilities for the day.

I am grateful I had the opportunity of serving as county superintendent of Republic County. It was a delightful experience. All of the teachers were truly cooperative and I made many new and lasting friendships.

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### EDUCATION IN RETROSPECT

#### A GLIMPSE BACKWARD TO THE FIRST QUARTER OF THE 20TH CENTURY

I look back on the years I spent as a teacher and County Superintendent in Republic County as among the happiest and most rewarding of a professional career which began as a teacher in Willowdale, District No. 41 and ended as an Associate Superintendent in New York City. None of my later experiences changed my opinion that the schools of Kansas, from the one-room rural schools through the University, were doing a competent job of educating its boys and girls.

It was inevitable in the face of declining enrollments and increasing costs that the one-room rural schools and the unincorporated town schools beginning in the 1930s would have to give way to consolidation resulting in larger enrollments and an expanded tax base. But praise is due these stalwart institutions which from the days of the homesteader carried the main burden of educating generations of boys and girls living in the rural areas of the state. These schools depended for their sole support on the taxes levied on the property within the school district. There were some protested, but the overwhelming majority of tax payers were willing to make any sacrifice to keep their schools open. The annual school meeting was

a model of democratic action with all of the residents of the district voting on the budget, electing trustees and deciding on the over-all school program for the year.

The members of the district boards deserve to be remembered for the public service they rendered as trustees of the schools. They performed the official duties of their offices faithfully and cheerfully, and, in addition, many contributed uncounted hours of labor in painting, repairing and yard maintenance of their schools. Long after the last child had left the home school, some trustees continued to serve on the boards.

During the years I was County Superintendent, I was able to observe the performance of our teachers in the



classrooms and in professional meetings. For the most part they were native to the county and products of its schools. Some were barely older than their oldest pupils; some had taught in the same school for years. The professional training of most was meager. But what they lacked in training and experience, they made up with determination, dedication, and pioneer Kansas spirit. I think most of the beginners tried to imitate the practices of the best teacher they once had. The job demanded the teacher be housekeeper, janitor, fireman, counsellor, diplomat, and playground director. She was on her own to do or die, and about all the County Superintendent could do was wish her luck. It was remarkable under these circumstances that so few of the beginning teachers failed, and it was especially remarkable that despite all these limitations, children did learn. Years later as a supervisor in the New York City public schools, I found myself recalling some of the outstanding teachers I had observed in the schools of Republic County as models of the art of good teaching.

Much can be said for the pupils and parents of the 1900-1930s. School attendance was voluntary. There were no bus pick-ups and no truant officers. A child went to school because he had no other option. Parents were determined their children would get an education. In most homes, there was a second school session which began after the supper dishes were done. The whole family pitched in to go over the subject assignments for the next school day and there is no doubt a goodly share of teaching and learning was exchanged in these sessions.

Admittedly, there were not so many distractions competing with the school for the pupil's time as there are now, but unquestionably there was a commitment to education which is not often equalled by today's parents

and pupils.

As I look back over the years to the period of 1900-1930s, my strongest impression is how relatively simple the process of education was. The objectives of the school and the institution itself were understandable, uncomplicated, and immediately and importantly involved in the lives of the persons it served. But it worked. Children learned to read and write and do arithmetic and their record of moral integrity and good citizenship will match that of any subsequent generation.

It is my opinion that some schools today have promised to do more than they are able, are trying to do more than they should, have focused too much on the individual differences of children and lost sight of the things more children have in common. We have divided the job of teaching among too many persons and overspecialized a process that should be kept as simple and as close to the teacher and pupil as possible.

Perhaps I am a bit sentimental in evaluating the schools of the early 1900s, but before I am accused of being reactionary, I would like to point to the latest discovery by today's educational experts. It is called "mainstreaming." All of the teacher-training schools and professional literature presently abound with enthusiastic descriptions and definitions of this "new" concept. And what is "mainstreaming?" Essentially, it is an admission that the idea of letting children of varying learning capacities, physical abilities, social backgrounds and interests share the same classroom, was not such a bad idea after all. Putting pupils into the mainstream, it is now discovered, provides a better learning environment than if they were segregated in special classes according to their individual differences. This, I submit, is coming close to the original concept of the one-room rural school with its grand mixture of children of all shades of differences but all so much more alike than different.

This statement is not intended as a plea to return to the schools of 1910 or 1930. Great progress has been made in education since then. It is, however, intended as a reaffirmation of my admiration and respect for a generation of parents and teachers who did an admirable job of giving their children a basic education.

CLARE C. BALDWIN  
125 ESTATES DRIVE  
SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95060

#### OUR COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION



This promising young man, Marvin E. Larson, grew up in a rural community of the western part of Republic County and became superintendent in 1933. He held office for two terms while schools were harassed with financial problems, teachers were beset with the difficulties encountered when money is short to furnish the supplies and equipment needed.

In the picture above he and Mrs. Larson were making an official visitation to his old home school, Dist. 87, checking on the teaching and learning processes while Miss Thelma Larson was the teacher. He himself was an eighth grade graduate from No. 87.

At one of his County Commencements, we recall his



admonition to those graduates that they should get the best education it was possible for them to attain, and to bring back to Republic County all the greatest and best they had in them, so that this county could continue to grow and prosper.

However, Mr. Larson went on to get his degree in law and did not return to this county. He and his wife, Josephine live in Topeka, Kansas.

#### "TO BE, OR NOT TO BE" — A COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT

With respect to school finance in Republic County during my years, 1937-41, some of the rural districts had incredibly low property valuations. I seem to recall one district which, prior to the equalization bill taking effect, had an annual expenditure of something like \$375. This was accomplished by paying the teacher as little as \$35 per month and buying a little coal for the stove. Districts

were very unequal with respect to their financial resources. Some were larger geographically than others. Some contained better land than others. But, most important, some had public utilities such as railroads, power lines, or pipe lines running through them whereas others did not.

Some years earlier than the 1937 school equalization law (I am not sure of the exact year but it may have been 1933 or 1934) the budget and cash basis laws were passed. These required all municipalities, including rural school districts, to develop budgets which would be within anticipated revenues. Nor could districts borrow money or even issue no fund warrants without a special dispensation. This meant that each spring some 100 rural school boards would come pouring into the county superintendent's office for help in making out their budgets. For two or three weeks Veda McCarty, my assistant, and I would devote full time to this - and one year the register of deeds, who seemed to have some spare time, gave us a hand.

Some of my most interesting (?) experiences had to do with school organization or reorganization. The tenacity with which rural communities held on to their school districts was almost beyond belief, as Fannie Dilsaver, who suffered the effects of the 1945 reorganization law, can testify better than I. One of my efforts to bring about the voluntary consolidation of two districts is illustrative. Two rural schools located two miles apart on the all weather rock road which ran across the southern part of the county from Kackley and Norway through Wayne to Agenda (the years have erased any memory of the numbers or names of the districts, except that they were west of highway 81) each had three or four pupils. Each of the buildings was fairly usable. I suggested that the districts consolidate. Each district was agreeable providing school was held in their building. I then suggested that an acre of land be acquired at the intersection midway between their schools and one of the buildings moved to the new site. Both districts were adamantly opposed to this. Having no resource but persuasion, and that having failed, I did not persist.

Perhaps my most traumatic experience as county superintendent had to do with the efforts of the Munden community to organize a rural high school district around itself. The Munden common school district was too small and too lacking in financial resources to offer a high school program. So, a number of persons in the community began to push for a rural high school. Kansas spelled out the procedure for doing this:- the county commissioners and the county superintendent must approve the boundaries of the proposed district and the proponents must secure the signatures of 40 percent of the qualified voters in the proposed district on a petition before a referendum could be held. This was done. Believe it or not, the vote was a tie, 271 to 271 as I recall. The proponents then wished to try again, drawing in the boundaries somewhat to leave out some of the more determined opponents of the idea. Since the first vote had been inconclusive, the commissioners and I thought this was reasonable. But the law required that on the second try 50 percent or more of the voters must sign the petition and these signatures were secured! The second referendum was indeed acrimonious. A very agitated group of citizens appeared in my office the day before the voting. I could only tell them that if I were in their situation I would exercise my democratic prerogative

and vote against the proposal but that other persons had an equal right to vote for it. Incredible as it may seem, in spite of the fact that 50 percent or more of the potential voters had petitioned for the referendum, it failed by one vote! Curious about this, I quietly made some inquiries and was told that a couple of fellows had said, "Sure we signed the petition. We wanted to show those "so-and-sos" that we could beat them." So then the proponents wanted to try for a third time but the commissioners and I said no. We thought enough was enough. I have often said since,



that it was the one thing I did with 100 percent efficiency while I was county superintendent. I made everyone mad at me - the opponents by authorizing the second referendum and the proponents by refusing to authorize the third. But perhaps not - the Munden people were of a forgiving nature. Before I left office they invited me to give the commencement talk to their eighth grade graduating class!

In recent years, and particularly during the last half of the decade of the '60s, there was much agitation in America for the return of "neighborhood schools" and for "local control" of education. This issue was, of course, most prevalent in urban areas where many minority groups felt that they were powerless and almost disenfranchised. Interestingly, it was almost at this same time that Kansas was moving forward with its unification program and away from the small neighborhood schools. In those years, as I worked as an educator far away from Kansas, I used to think of the contradictions inherent in the issue and I thought that if any people ever had neighborhood schools and local control of them we had it in the earlier days of Kansas. It is hard to argue against "neigh-



borhood schools" and "local control" for they have such a democratic, American ring to them. And of course it is very important that parents and patrons be involved with their schools and conversant with them. Yet, I cannot feel that the rural school I attended as a farm boy in Kansas and the 100 rural schools with which I worked as a county superintendent were as good as they needed to be. Their resources were too limited, not only financially but also professionally, and particularly with respect to their opening up for children a wider view of the state and nation and world in which they lived. I think that tremendous progress has been made in education in Kansas during the past 100 years.

We managed to do a few progressive things in Republic County between 1937 and 1941, I think. I believe I have mentioned earlier the development of a circulating lending library for rural schools, we encouraged most of the rural schools to purchase a good set of reference books, we instituted a newsletter to teachers which helped to keep them abreast of what was going on educationally at the local, state, and national levels, we established the position of county school nurse and filled it, we encouraged membership of teachers in the Kansas State Teachers Association, and we inaugurated monthly "zone" meetings of teachers so that they could meet and discuss their mutual problems. We promoted an annual joint meeting of teachers and school boards in Belleville with outstanding speakers. And we cooperated fully in the state department's curriculum revision efforts, notably the "unit method" of study. This when times were hard—oh, they were hard! I can honestly say that although my experience as county superintendent came early in my career, I have not done anything since which I enjoyed more nor where I learned more.

**MRS. THRESSA KELLY, REPUBLIC COUNTY  
SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

Miss Thressa Thompson received her high school education at the Munden High School and then went to

Salina to take Normal Training to obtain her teacher's certificate. Her first school teaching was three miles southwest of Munden at Beck School. She rode a fractious horse six miles every day for the round trip to school



through all kinds of weather. Next she taught Seapo School south of Wayne, and her third school was Odell School northwest of Belleville. This was the first seven years of teaching.

In 1916 Miss Thressa Thompson married Mr. Arthur Kelly and did not teach until the fall of 1928. In preparation she had renewed her teacher's certificate by taking correspondence courses. She started teaching again at the Lone Tree School six miles northeast of Norway, for \$80



per month.

Her daughter Faye Novak recalls that Redtop School, four miles' northwest of Lone Tree, was having disciplinary problems. The School Board offered her \$90 per month to come and teach their school, and as an added incentive, she could bring her son Marion and daughter Faye along. Mrs. Kelly taught there for the next three years until her children were ready to go to high school.

Through the years of The Great Depression Mrs. Kelly did not teach until 1937. Her son Marion and she both began teaching that fall - she at Dist. No. 48 three miles east of Norway, and he at Bowling Green, Dist. No. 50, which was four miles north and one east of No. 48 school. Marion received \$40 per month and she got \$45 - teachers' salaries had not recovered from the hard years of the early thirties.

From Dist. No. 48 Mrs. Kelly decided to go back to teach at Redtop and was there when she decided to run for county superintendent. She served the county schools for eight years in that capacity.

After leaving the office, she needed one or two years to finish out thirty years for her teacher retirement and so she returned to her home school, Bowling Green.

Her daughter remembers that her mother enjoyed the classroom more than the work as county superintendent, for she loved working with children and particularly those children who had learning difficulties.

Most of Mrs. Kelly's pictures burned when her home was destroyed but Faye has courteously loaned a picture of the common school graduation group on May 25, 1948 and also a picture of the Executive Council of the Republic County Teachers Association.

After her home burned, she made a home out of Bowling Green Schoolhouse as school was no longer held there. She lived in it for several years, as long as she was able to live alone.

Two of her sisters, Doris Thompson-Dunback-Williamson and Muriel Thompson-Logan also taught school.

#### **"THE VANISHING HERITAGE"**

I am using the term, "Vanishing Heritage," because the early school system was set up for the rural people of Kansas. After Kansas became a state, the State Legislature passed a law to give the rural people an opportunity to get an eighth grade education by locating a rural school in every other section or two of land, so that no child would be required to walk more than two miles to school. Most of the early settlers were rural people. From this system the rural people inherited the chance to get an education.

So this schoolhouse was the community meeting-place, not only for school, but also for local functions in the community. There were Christmas programs, box suppers, literary functions and other social uses. This way local people got together to visit. Their mode of travel was by horse and buggy, carriage, lumber wagon. Walking was very common also.

The teacher was hired by the board for a salary from twenty to forty dollars per month, to teach all eight grades, do the janitor work and build fire in a pot-bellied stove that burned coal. Water was carried from the neighbor's or a near-by pump to supply drinking water. But outdoor toilets were the only modern conveniences.

Early day schools held three to seven months of

school and later, eight to nine months of school. Many local people would know the time of day by the tolling of the school bell. It rang at 8:30 a.m. and to take up school at 9:00 a.m., for morning and afternoon recesses, and for the close of the one hour lunch period. School was dismissed at four o'clock. The teacher either stayed with a local family or drove a horse and buggy to school.

The County Superintendent was an elected official who was the go-between for the State Department of Education, headed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the local public school. The County Superintendent's job was immense. The Superintendent



was expected to visit every school at least once a year, curriculum was provided, teachers were qualified, and provisions made to make a good school or a standard school.

The land owner in the community either donated, deeded or sold the land for the school, usually two acres more or less, with stipulations filed with the Register of Deeds Office at the Court House. If the school was closed, the land was disposed of according to those provisions.

The County Superintendent was the supervisor of all the rural schools, of schools in Third Class cities, and a Board Member of First Class cities. As the rural population declined, there were fewer and fewer rural schools and so consolidation was the next step. Republic County started with 126 school systems and by 1955 when I took office there were 60.

The rural county school, or "the little red schoolhouse" as it was commonly called, has played an important role in the life in the country. Many outstanding citizens of the county attended a rural school and have become local, state, and national figures. I myself attended a rural school at Medina, Kansas, in Jefferson County, then the Perry High School, and graduated from Kansas State University at Manhattan with a B.S. Degree.

The County Superintendent's Office was the center not only for school but also other community activities as well. It closely cooperated with County Commissioners,

County Clerk, County Treasurer, Register of Deeds, County Attorney, County Sheriff, and the County Health Office.

The duties of the County Superintendent covered wide area. Long before school started in the fall, plans had to be made for the Teachers Institute which lasted from three to five days. All teachers registered their certificates, turned in a record of all pupils in each school - their ages, grades, attendance, and parents. There were teachers term reports, school library reports, plans for teachers meetings, teacher-school board banquets, county musical programs, county basket ball tournaments, county track meets. Reports were filed and copies sent to the State Department of Education, county exams were prepared, eighth grade graduation exercises were conducted, school budget assistance was given and files of school levies made through the County Clerk. School tuition was paid, meetings for disorganization of school districts were held, school property was sold, hearings on school problems were held, school boundaries were changed. Then county school maps were made showing changes in boundaries, a county school directory was published each year and complete records were filed by districts. School exhibits were planned for the North Central Kansas Free Fair in Belleville.

The office assistant had to be very efficient and have a complete knowledge of all the school laws with every item checked and filed for future use. A News Letter was prepared and mailed to each board member and teacher in the county, except the Second Class City. An approved age in school was filed for the Social Security Office.

By 1960 the enrollment in rural schools had continued to decline so there was talk of mass consolidation in the air. The State Legislature later appropriated \$30,000 to make a survey of the school situation and reported that by consolidation the cost of education per pupil would be much less with fewer districts and a better educational program for the children. With this report, I could see the "handwriting on the wall" that in due time, this office would be eliminated.

By 1965 meetings were being held in each county to elect a planning committee to find out what schools should be consolidated. In Republic County, the final decision was to have three districts - one on the east, one in the central part, and one in the western part of the county. The Legislature ruled that a district must have an enrollment of 400 before it could be formed.

The next step the Legislature took was the final blow to the office of the county superintendent when they sent a referendum for the people of Kansas to change the office of the State Superintendent to an appointive office by an elected State Board of Education consisting of members elected from each Congressional District. The plan was approved by the public at election. During the change, nothing was mentioned regarding the status of the office of County Superintendent. In the process, the public had also voted to eliminate the Office of the County Superintendent when the office of the State Superintendent was changed.

Records of all of the schools that were filed in the County Superintendent's office now had to be transferred to the County Register of Deeds Office. Before the closing date, every effort was made to collect all the old school records that could be found. By contacting board members, patrons or anyone with records, we filed maps with locations of schools, names (old and new) of each

school for future reference. The circulating library of books in the office that had been purchased by the different schools were returned to the schools that were in operation, or to pupils who wanted them.

At 12:00 noon, June 30, 1969, the door of the County Superintendent's Office closed forever. This was the end of another "Heritage of Kansas."

W. J. Matthias

The last County Superintendent  
of Schools in Republic County.

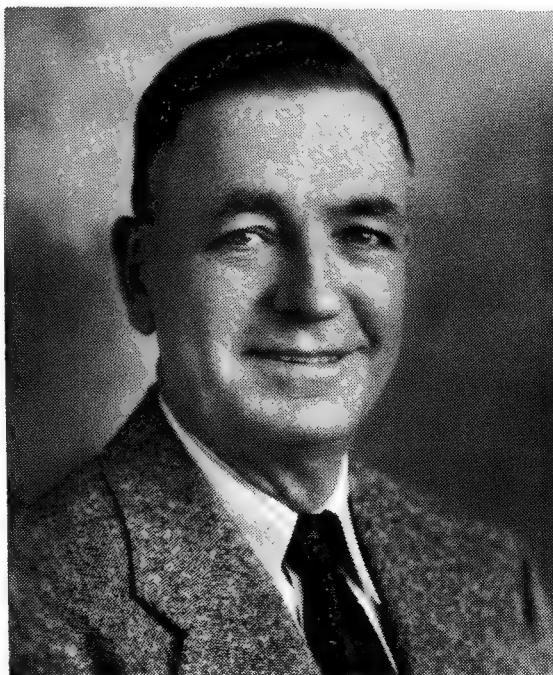
Harry B. Olson, teacher and superintendent, was well liked by both the parents and his pupils. He was active in civic activities and was a faithful worker in the church. Harry, his wife Olga and son Donald were members of the Cuba, Kansas community for 26 years, they were well liked by everyone and greatly respected.

Harry was born on November 26, 1894 in Assaria, Kansas. His folks were farmers living in the Assaria area. Olga Palmquist was born December 10, 1895 in Lindsborg, Kansas. They met at a telephone switch board in Lindsborg, where she worked as an operator, while he was a student there. They were married at the Lutheran Church in Lindsborg. They had one son, Donald.

After retiring, Harry and Olga moved back to Lindsborg where they made their home. Harry died on March 8, 1969 and was buried in Elmwood Cemetery at Lindsborg. Olga lived in their home in Lindsborg, until recently. She has moved to Riverview Estates, Marquette, Kansas. 67464.

Following is Harry's own story, that he wrote and which was printed in Cuba's Centennial Book in 1968. This reprint following will tell more of his life, family and his schools. (Picture courtesy of Cuba Hillcrest School) 1951

Written by E. F. Stepanek.





**MEMORABLE YEARS,  
26 IN THE CUBA, KANSAS SCHOOL SYSTEM.**

I, Harry B. Olson, graduated from Assaria, Kansas High School in 1914. That same year, I entered Bethany College at Lindsborg, Kansas, graduating in 1918.

After graduation, I joined the teaching staff at Chase, Kansas High School, as principle, teaching science and coaching the athletic teams. From Chase, I went to western Kansas, teaching math, science and assistant coach in Bird City High School.

Brownell, Kansas was my next assignment. I taught for six years, science and manual training, later being elected to the superintendency of the school.

After four years as superintendent at the McCracken, Kansas High School, I decided, I wanted a change. So we moved to Lindsborg, where I served in the capacity as a salesman for a school supply company of Topeka, Kansas.

Not long after this experience as a salesman, I decided to return to the field of teaching and it was in August 1932 that we moved to Cuba, Kansas, my wife Olga, son Donald, and I. In this friendly Czech community, we lived 26 years, serving as teacher and superintendent in the school system. In 1958, we moved to the community of Montrose, Kansas, in Jewell County, where I served as superintendent for seven years.

After forty-five years of teaching I decided to retire. Presently we are living in our home at 860 No. Main Street at Lindsborg, Kansas.

During the years I served as superintendent of schools and teaching classes all day, including boys and girls athletics, evening shadows were beginning to fall many times, when I arrived home for supper. But when the war came to an end in Korea, Maurice Lysell was hired as coach and commerce teacher. This was indeed, a great relief to my overworked mind and body.

We enjoyed our stay in Cuba very much and certainly appreciated the Board of Education, community, teachers and above all, the fine student body we enjoyed working with each year.

We also enjoyed our affiliation with the churches. The first year or two we attended the old Methodist Church, now remodeled into the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Fisher and children. After the Methodist Church united with the Presbyterian Church, we transferred and attended there until we left Cuba. I taught the adult class each year, and I think we had one of the finest adult classes that ever met regularly each Sunday. Those years will live forever!

My first graduation class of 1933, married, and their children graduated under my supervision, which indicated satisfaction of parent and child.

Our athletic teams were very outstanding. These teams won the tournaments so many times that other schools "Boo-ed" when we appeared on the court. This was true of both boys and girls teams.

Students that graduated under my supervision, often stop to see us, and words fail to express our appreciation for their thoughtfulness. We only hope they will continue to stop by and say "hello" if nothing more.

Our son, Donald, was born in 1919 and went with us at all times. He graduated with the "Class of '37" from Cuba High School. He enrolled at Bethany College and graduated with honors with the "Class of '41". After graduation he went to Kansas State University at Manhattan on a scholarship, working for a Master of Science degree. But soon "Uncle Sam" interfered by

choosing him as a chemist inspector on high explosives at Pryor, Oklahoma. After the war was over, he was sent to Goodrich Rubber Company as a chemist. He was then sent by his company to New York as a rubber buyer. From New York he went to Avia Brokerage Company, which he now owns.

He and his wife, Margie, and two daughters, Trudy a senior in college and Donna a senior in high school, lived at Glen Ridge, New Jersey.

After 26 years of service in Cuba, it was indeed, difficult to leave our beloved friends. We didn't move far away, and quite often, we'd head our car eastward for a drive to Cuba and to visit our dear friends. We always received a warm welcome.

These 26 years spent in Cuba are Memorable Years. They always remind us that there is a Silver Lining on every path of life, and it lights the way to happiness and friendships that will never be forgotten.

Written by Harry B. Olson.

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**MR. HARRY C. QUANTIC  
1926-1971**

Harry C. Quantic began a 46-year career in public education, which included teaching, coaching and administration, at Riley, Kansas. In 1944 he came to Scandia, Kansas where he served as principal, teacher



and coach for a twenty-two-year span.

He had graduated from Kansas State University, Manhattan with a Bachelor's and Master's degree.

During his years at Scandia he supervised the graduation of 392 seniors. His coaching career saw the only Scandia basketball team to qualify for the State Tournaments in 1947.

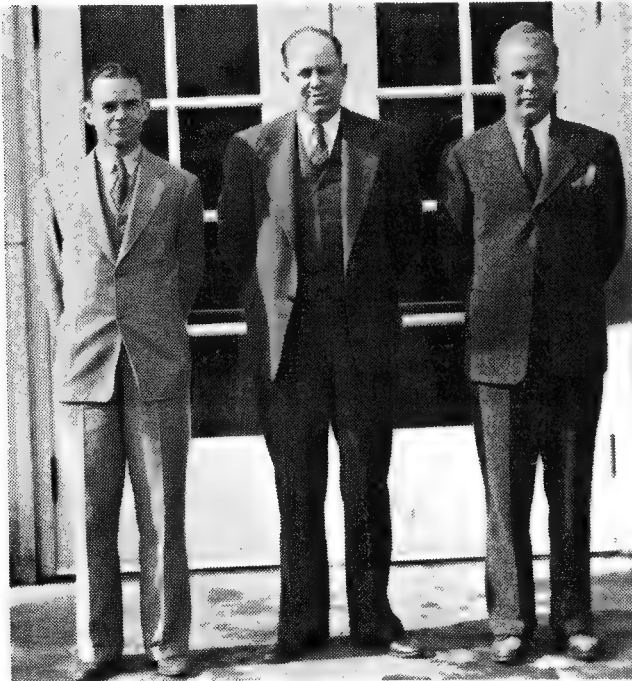
Following six years at Chester, Nebraska he and his wife, Mable retired to a home in Riley, Kansas in 1971. He died at this home in April, 1975.

**MR. J. R. JOHNSON  
COURTLAND SUPERINTENDENT**

Synonymous with Courtland Schools is the name J. R. Johnson in the minds of teachers working in Republic County Schools during the past fifty years, although he began his career as a classroom teacher in Norway School in 1927. After two years in that capacity, he served as superintendent there for seven years. While at Norway he married Bertha Hammer (1933) whose home was there.

The following year (1934) he and his bride left Norway so that he could acquire more college hours. After one year at the University of Kansas, he earned his M.A. Degree in Education (1935). He returned to his old home town and school at Courtland as both a teacher and a superintendent, serving in that capacity until the fall of 1963.

During that time, his qualifications enabled him to teach English, Latin, history and all business education



courses. The heavy teaching schedule of five or six periods a day plus all the administrative duties of a principal and superintendent, without a paid secretary most of the time, was reason enough for him to step down from the office grind and just be a classroom teacher until his sudden and untimely death, due to a second heart attack, in December 1968.

We could think of no one better qualified to tell us about Mr. Johnson than Raymond Stewart, who had served with him almost thirty years. He wrote, "I always considered Mr. J. R. Johnson one of the solid, dedicated, 'Old Guard' school men, along with Harry Olson of Cuba, and Harry Quantie of Scandia. There, no doubt, are many more but I knew the above three extremely well... I can describe his years as superintendent and teacher at Courtland very quickly by saying: 'He was over-worked, underpaid and never fully appreciated.'"

The picture (1941) is courtesy of Mr. Stewart and he stands at the left, then J. R. Johnson and then Maurice

Lysell who was also a teacher there in seventh and eighth grades before he went to serve his country during World War II. He came back to Republic County and taught at Cuba. Later, he was at Enterprise, and Lincoln, Kans. and then Security, Colo. when he died of cancer in 1966 or 1967.

Mr. Johnson kept in his school faculty a number of good teachers. They respected him for his moral character, his school knowledge and his talents. He was active in Courtland's civic affairs, a life-long and faithful member of the Ada Lutheran Church, served officially in the Republic County Teachers Association and was presiding officer at the fall Convention of K.S.T.A. many years ago.

Never going far from his birthplace a few miles south of Courtland (a beautiful place yet today), attending Bolen School, graduating from Courtland High School in 1921, attending Bethany College until 1925 when he received his A. B. Degree - all of these preparations fitted him to serve his home community. "Well done our good and faithful servant" is trite but so true of "J. R."

**AGNES HODGINS - TOLBERT  
TEACHER AND WRITER**

Were it not for the tireless efforts of one of our Republic County retired teachers, much of the history of the first white settlers along Salt Creek, the Prairie Grove School, Dist. No. 1, the story of Minersville, the Seapo Mill, and Talmo community would have been lost. On the pages of her books - Log Cabin Days, and The Rock Houses of Minersville, she is able to convey to the reader some of the adventure, the hardships, as well as the courage necessary to pioneer our Homeland.

For this reason we wanted to give special recognition and decided to interview one of the best rural school



teachers from the years at the opening of the twentieth century. She taught between 1910-1920. Her education included Belleville high school, Campbell college, Holton;

one year at Kansas State in Manhattan with courses music and home economics; Graduate of Central Business College, Kansas City, Mo.; besides her continuing thirst for knowledge.

Mrs. Tolbert taught her first school in 1910 at Dist. No. 27, Seapo. She says, "I had an interesting 40 pupils; had a box supper, got money enough to buy a beautiful small chapel organ." The next year she taught Dist. No. 59, Beauchamp and "this was the year of the big snow in January and February. No mail on rural route - rode a horse the mile I usually walked. I wore a hobble skirt but had no saddle, so rode Indian style - rather difficult!" Her next teaching was at Grant School, Dist. No. 108. She had substituted for some other teachers - Kunkle School was one. Stony Point, Dist. No. 5 benefited from her service. The last two terms and part of another was at Prairie Grove, Dist. No. 1 where she turned an undesirable learning situation into one of inspiration and rewarding achievement.

Mrs. Tolbert goes on to say "my home was two miles north of the school, but I walked both going and coming along the Union Pacific Railroad track which was a few rods west of our home. Sometimes the men who worked this section of track were at the crossing and invited me to ride with them on the hand car. This was indeed a novel experience.

After ten year in teaching, "I was a stenographer in a law office for two years in Wetaskin, Alberta, Canada. I spent the summer of 1923 in Seattle, Washington as a bookkeeper and stenographer for Eldredge Buick Automobile Co."

Since retiring she says she has written several pioneer booklets, but "mostly I am a farmer. I live on and own the farm on which I was born." So her roots go deep in the lore of this community and it is richer for her having put them down here.

### OUR TRAVELING TEACHER

Why not use your talent and at the same time, see the world? This must have been in the mind of Mrs. Grace Smith-Robison, a graduate of Park College, Mo. in 1931 when she began her teaching career in Scandia High School. She worked and dreamed of it from 1954 until 1963 while she carried on the duties of librarian, English and social studies teacher.

After leaving Scandia, she taught social studies at Norton Kansas High School for two years (1963-65).

Having "tried her wings," she decided to really



travel, so Grace served in the "American Overseas Program" in the following list of countries which sounds like she has been round the world:

Tokyo, Japan.....1965-66  
Seoul, Korea.....1966-67  
Bremerhaven, Germany....1967-69  
Frankfurt, Germany.....1969-73  
Keflgvik, Iceland.....1973-76

This picture from Keflgvik, Iceland (1974-76) shows her with her class of ten. They look like they could have come from a class in Republic County!

Grace is now in the summer of 1976 completing her final term and will soon be back home living in Scandia. Welcome back, Grace! We salute you and your accomplishments.

### GUIDELINES FOR TEACHERS IN 1872

1. Teachers each day will fill lamps, clean chimneys.
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's session.
3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual taste of the pupils.
4. Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they go to church regularly.
5. After ten hours in school, the teachers may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.
6. Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.
7. Every teacher should lay aside from each pay a goodly sum of his earnings for his benefit during his declining years so that he will not become a burden on society.
8. Any teacher who smokes, used liquor in any form, frequents pool or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect his worth, intention and honesty.
9. The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in his pay, providing the Board of Education approves.

### AFTER SCHOOL

A house should have a cookie jar,  
For when it's half-past three,  
And children home from school  
As hungry as can be,  
There's nothing quite so splendid  
In filling children up,  
As spicy, fluffy ginger cakes,  
And sweet milk in a cup.

A house should have a mother  
Waiting with a hug,  
No matter what a boy brings home,  
A puppy or a bug.  
For children only loiter  
When the bell rings to dismiss,  
If no one's home to greet them  
With a cookie or a kiss.

## COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Researched by Madison Coombs

The first compulsory attendance law was passed by the Kansas Legislature in 1874. It provided that children who were physically and mentally able to do so, from the ages of 8 to 14 inclusive, must attend school for a minimum 12 weeks a year, "six weeks of which must be consecutive."

In 1903 the age requirement was changed to 8 to 15 with an alternative requirement of completion of the 8th grade.

In 1919, the age requirement was changed to 8 to 16 years and in 1923, 7 to 16 years with the alternative requirement of completion of the 8th grade being continued.

In 1965 the 7-to-16-age requirement was continued but the 8th grade completion was dropped, so that those who graduated before 16 years of age must continue their education.

So far as the present-day requirement of length of attendance during the year is concerned, the law says, "for such period as the public school of the district in which the child resides is in session." This is commonly 180 days. Since every child now resides in a Unified School District, he is required to attend high school, and is privileged to attend in his own district or any which he chooses, until he or she is sixteen.

I recall that while I was superintendent I had to prefer charges against one couple for not sending their daughter to school. I remember that Judge Van Natta fined them \$5. Their reason for not sending her was that they were mad at the teacher! It was a sad situation.

## KANSAS STATE READING CIRCLE

Researched by Madison Coombs

The Kansas State Reading Circle was begun early in the history of the state in 1885 at the instigation of the county superintendents and the state superintendent, but for many years it had little effect. Then in 1916, during the administration of W. D. Ross as state superintendent, he prevailed on the Kansas State Teachers Association to take over the operation of it. Still nothing much happened until 1925 when Jess Miley, State Superintendent, and Frank Pinet, Secretary of K.S.T.A., were instrumental in getting the school library law passed.

The School Library Law required each school district to buy \$5 worth of library books for each teacher employed. This caused the Reading Circle to become an important factor in Kansas education. It remained a sort of quasi-official entity with the state superintendent serving as an ex officio member of the Reading Circle Board.

Mr. Coombs says, "I served as a member of the Reading Circle Board during one of my four years as county Superintendent (1937-1941) but I could not remember which one. So when I was talking with the young man (in K-NEA office) the other day he brought out the file of the annual price lists which had been issued and my name appeared for the year 1939-40...educational publishers submitted books for consideration and the board selected a list. Schools ordered their \$5 worth per teacher from this list. This seems like so pitifully little these days, but those were depression times and had it not been for the law and the Reading Circle, I am afraid that

most districts would not have been ordering any at all....during my last year in office we asked the schoolboards to voluntarily "pool" their \$5 per teacher and with these funds we purchased at least two sets of the adoptions. These were kept in the county superintendent's office as a circulating library. During the course of the school year, teachers could check out large numbers of the books for their children to use; whereas, if the schools had bought them individually they would have had only four or five books.

"During my last year in office I was also a member of the board of directors of the County Superintendents Association. During the latter part of 1940 we got wind of the fact that a faction of the KSTA board of Directors was advocating that the KSTA discontinue its sponsorship of the Reading Circle. The county superintendents sent me as their representative to ask the KSTA board not to take this action. As the copies of two letters which I am enclosing will attest, The KSTA board decided in favor of the Reading Circle.

"I was amazed to find that after all these years Kansas-NEA is still involved. Nowadays, however, the association does not actually handle or "job" the books themselves, as they did in my time. Now they confine their responsibility to selection and recommendation of a list of "media" - not only books but films, film strips, records, tapes, pictures, etc., etc. The Reading Circle has fulltime staff and does a highly professional job. School districts, being fewer, larger and more professionalized with trained librarians, order directly from the publishers."

## NEODESHA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Glenn A. DeLay, Superintendent

NEODESHA, KANSAS

Dec. 16, 1940

Mr. Madison Coombs  
County Superintendent  
Belleville, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Coombs:

I wish to express to you my appreciation of the very fine spirit and the excellent way in which you presented the case for the reading circle as spokesman for your group before the board of directors at Topeka. Those of us who have been supporting the thought of continuing the reading circle feel that you rendered the cause a signal service. I believe that this is one of the very few educational enterprises which our association supports directly. I have felt all along that if this is a service which is desired by the rural schools and their leaders, the county superintendents, it is a feature that our association can not afford to discontinue.

There is much feeling with considerable justice that the city schools of the state are the ones which receive major consideration in the activities of the association. This is not as it should be. I think you made it clear in your remarks that the rural schools should have some point of common interest with the activities of the association.

Again I wish to thank you for coming before our group and making the splendid presentation of the case which you did. With cordial good wishes, I am

Sincerely,  
Glenn A. DeLay

Superintendent.

GAD:PJ



## THE KANSAS STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

315 West Tenth Street

TOPEKA, KANSAS

December 16, 1940

Mr. Madison Coombs  
County Superintendent  
Belleville, Kansas

My dear Mr. Combs:

I have just gotten through the heavy work growing out of our Board meetings and am leaving today for Chicago to try to sell some advertising, but in spite of the many things I have to take care of today I do want to write you a brief note to congratulate you on the very fine presentation you made for the county superintendents at the time of our meeting last Saturday. It was most masterful, and I have never seen a better handling of a subject than the way you presented the matter before the Board.

I hope you stay in educational work for I think you are fated to go places if you stay in this work.

Thinking perhaps you might care to see copy of the minutes of the two board meetings, I am sending you copies herewith. There are probably many things in these minutes that will not interest you, but I am sure there are some that will interest you.

Sincerely yours,

F. L. Pinet,

Executive Secretary.

FLP:O  
ENCL.

## TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Researched by - Madison Coombs

In 1858 the Territorial Legislature created the office of county superintendent and gave that official the authority to certify teachers. One year later he was given power to organize school districts. The Wyandotte Constitution under which Kansas became a state continued these powers. The county superintendent was authorized to continue organizing school districts "By dividing the county into a convenient number of units".

The first state board of education was organized under legislative authority in 1873. The duties of the board were limited by law to issuing state diplomas and certificates to teachers. Both were issued upon examination. The diplomas were valid in any school district of the state for life. Two levels of certificates were valid for only three and five years, respectively.

Adel Throckmorton's history continues the chronology as follows:

1876 Boards of Education of cities of the first and second class authorized to certify teachers.

1893 State board of Education authorized to substitute credit from approved colleges for examination in those subjects as qualification for certification of teachers.

1899 Graduates of the University of Kansas and other accredited institutions taking required courses could qualify to be certified by the State Board of Education.

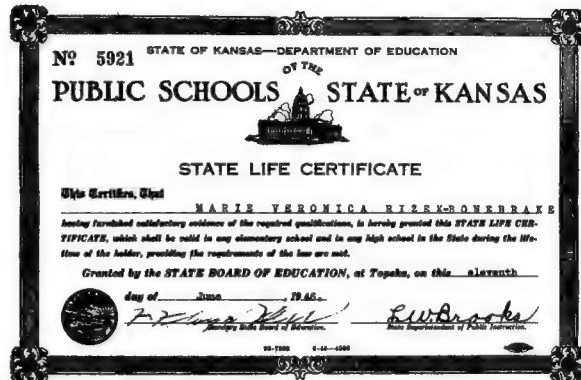
1909 State Board of Education authorized to issue certificates to high school graduates completing high school normal training courses and passing a state exam.

1915 Legislature set Bachelor degree requirement for high school teachers.

1937 The State Board of Education and the three state teachers colleges given exclusive authority to certify

teachers.

1947 The State Superintendent given exclusive authority to certify teachers under rules and regulations approved by the State Board of Education and to graduates of teachers colleges with institutional recommendations.



A teacher was issued a state life certificate to teach in Kansas schools during her lifetime after she received her college degree and taught at least two years. Marie Rizek Bonebrake received her state life certificate in 1946 and has received a Master of Science degree and taught in the Manhattan secondary school system after that date.

This latter part is still the basic law but it was not until 1959 that there were ironclad degree requirement put into effect for elementary teachers. This was a long time coming, partly because of the teacher shortages occasioned by World War II and then by the large numbers of school-age children in the post war years. Even so, the rights of teachers already teaching in 1959 were protected by a "grandfather" clause. The Kansas State Teachers Association had a great deal to do with putting the pressure on for higher professional standards.

I can add some personal recollections to the above information. The first question I was asked on my first day as county superintendent in 1937 was by an elderly gentleman from either Wayne or Talmo. He wanted his granddaughter who had just finished eighth grade to have a job teaching one of the rural schools. When I explained to him that she did not meet the certification requirements (low as they were), he said that he did not see any sense in that. He said that she had finished the eighth grade and there would be no pupils in the school above the seventh grade and he did not see why she would not be qualified to teach them. While his attitude was somewhat extreme, it was in general shared by many patrons. The high school at Republic City was still offering a normal training course while I was county superintendent and I believe that Belleville had discontinued theirs not long before. Fannie Dilsaver taught these courses at one time.

It is a little hard these days to believe that even in 1941, my last year in office, there were about 120 organized school districts in Republic County and about 100 of them operating as rural schools, nearly all of them with one teacher. In 1967 there were only 339 districts of all types in the entire state. In 1941 in Republic County the average salary for women rural teachers, as I recall, was

about \$45 per month for eight months and about \$55 for men teachers. I recall that one district paid its teacher \$35 per month that year.

I remember getting a frantic postcard one September day from a normal training graduate who was teaching her first year in one of the schools north of Belleville. It said only: "Mr. Coombs: Come help me - I am in a terrible mess." I hastened out to see her but I never did find out specifically what the "terrible mess" was, other than a general feeling of inadequacy, but then I did not have much more idea of how to teach a rural school than she did. Most teachers in the rural schools then did not. I think, look upon themselves as professionals. They were much more likely to reflect their father's tax-saving attitudes.

(Editorial comment: We have come a long, long way and would put our teachers with their fine training and professionalism beside any in the nation today! However, we salute those schools of the past for the courage and determination to "make the good better, and the better best!")

## TEACHER RETIREMENT

Research by Madison Coombs

Until about 1940, teaching was often used as a stepping stone to another profession. Young ladies would teach long enough to "fill her hope chest" and then get married. It was a bleak future for the career teacher to be able to save enough for "old age". There were those who did forge ahead hoping things would get better.

The best account I have found of the evolution of the Kansas retirement plan is in C. O. Wright's book, 100 Years in Kansas Education. Wright credits R. V. Phinney, Supt. of Schools at Larned, with being the father of the retirement plan, although Adel Throckmorton says that W. D. Ross, State Superintendent, first proposed it during his tenure in office, 1912 to 1919. Wright says, "Background work in the KSTA Representative Assembly by R. V. Phinney in the 30's was slumbering and ready to be kindled anew."

"By 1939 interest was extensive and the Legislative Council was instructed that year to draft a proposed bill on teacher retirement for consideration of the 1941 legislature. Marion Beatty of Topeka, a member of the legislature, served as chairman of the committee"

Opposition to the bill was furious. The insurance companies were against it because they feared it would hurt their annuity business. Governor Payne Ratner's support of the bill no doubt saved it although it was greatly "watered down" before passage. Again quoting from Wright, "As the debate became increasingly fiery, the abuse of teachers and the KSTA on the floors became stronger, day by day. 'Any teacher worthy of his salt could save for old age.' 'Teachers are trying to guzzle at the public trough.' 'Retirement is socialistic and communistic. It was not by accident that the K.S.T.A. building across the street is red'".

As passed, the Kansas Retirement Act of 1941 provided: (1) that the teacher receive a service annuity figured at \$1 a month for each year of service with a maximum of 30 years (\$360 Maximum service annuity); (2) that prior service by recognized back only to 1926 (15 years); (3) that the teacher pay four percent of salary up to \$3000 with the payments to remain in a savings fund in the teacher's name, and returns be paid to him at time of

retirement; (4) it was contemplated that after 30 years - with the state's payment of No. 30 a month service annuity and \$30 additional income from the savings of the teacher - the retirement payment would approximate \$60 a month or \$720 a year; (5) retirement was to be compulsory at age 70; (6) paid-up rights were granted in case of discontinuance of teaching with retirement pay to begin at age 65; disability payments on an actuarial basis were provided after 15 years' service; (7) the teacher could withdraw from the system and claim his contributions with interest, less deductions for cost of operation; (8) those in service before September, 1941 were admitted to the system only upon individual application.

Improvements in the 1941 retirement plan followed:

1947 - Employees of state and county superintendents' offices were included; teachers were permitted to transfer from city retirement systems; veterans were given credit for military service; \$2 was granted rather than one dollar for 30 years service, moving the annuity from \$30 a month to \$60.

1951 - Raised payment for approved service of 30 years to \$3 a month, which represented an improvement from 1941 from \$1 to \$3 a month.

1955 - Social Security benefits were added to the retirement income. This more than doubled the total benefits and gave Kansas teachers the largest return for teacher contribution of any state.

There were other improvements but the ones listed above were the principle ones. The Kansas Retirement system was just coming into effect as I left office in 1941. M. M. Rose, former superintendent of schools, Pittsburg, was the first administrator of the fund. I missed out on the benefits of it entirely.

## SUMMARY OF SCHOOL FINANCE

Researched by Madison Coombs

School Finance. The constitution under which Kansas was admitted to the union (the Wyandotte Constitution) in 1861 provided sections of land numbered 16 and 36 in each township should be granted to the state for the exclusive use of public schools; that 72 sections should be granted to the state for a state university; that five percent of the proceeds of public lands in Kansas should be paid into a fund the income from which should be used for the support of common schools; and that the 500,000 acres of land to which the state was entitled under the act of congress entitled "An act to appropriate the proceeds of the sales of public lands and preemption rights" approved Sept. 4, 1841, shall be granted to the state for the support of common schools. (Whether some of these provisions are duplications I am not sure.)

The first legislature after statehood created the Board of Commissioners for the management and investment of the public school fund. Most of the money going into this fund derived from the sale of public lands as provided in the constitution. During most of its history the Board of Commissioners invested these funds in conservative securities such as municipal and Federal bonds. While I have not learned how much this fund amounted to, I do not believe that it was ever a large factor in the support of common schools. No doubt the land set aside for the support of education sold at a very low price in those early days. I did learn just today that in 1969 or 1970 the public school fund was merged with the Kansas Public Employee Retirement Fund, many of whom of course are



former teachers.

Something that is not well known, I think, is that the 1861 legislature also authorized a one mill state levy for the support of common schools and this was continued until 1879 when the legislature abolished it with the aid of an adverse ruling of the Kansas Supreme Court. C. O. Wright, former secretary of the K.S.T.A., reports that while educators favored the one mill levy the "power structure" was against it.

From 1879 until 1937, 95 percent of the support of the elementary and secondary schools of the state came from local ad valorem property taxes. Kansas lagged far behind most other states in this respect. For example, in 1937 when the school equalization law was passed, one-third of every state dollar in Missouri was going for education and in Oklahoma the state was appropriating \$13 million for its public schools. Money for the new state aid program in Kansas came from the new state sales tax.

The formula for the state aid was: the state would pay the difference between what could be raised by a three mill levy on the assessed valuation of the district and \$675 in the case of one-teacher districts and \$27 times the number of pupils in the case of a graded elementary district.

Modest as this aid was, the extent of it declined under the conservative formula because of declining school enrollment and increasing property valuations. The amount of state aid in 1937-8 was \$2,113,993, but by 1944-5 it was down to \$1,200,681. Nevertheless, the precedent for non-ad valorem tax support had been established. By the 1966-7 school year, state aid had grown to \$86,600,000. The present state foundation program became effective on June 1, 1973. During the school year 1974-5 the state school equalization fund provided nearly 33 percent of the total cost of public education in Kansas and all state sources provided nearly 40 percent. Local ad valorem taxes provided only 44 percent of the funds required for

**SOURCES OF SCHOOL REVENUE IN KANSAS**  
Operational Purposes  
1974-75

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>	
1. Local Ad Valorem Taxes - K-12 *	\$252,254,936	43.922	Total Local Sources \$275,770,846
2. Vocational Education - Unified School District	8,584,119	1.495	48.017 percent
3. Area Vocational-Technical - Community Junior College	3,846,742	.670	
4. Local Ad Valorem Taxes - Community Junior College *	7,171,360	1.249	
5. Intangible Tax	3,913,689	.681	
6. County School Foundation Fund	16,688,074	2.906	Total County Sources \$ 18,900,755
7. County Out-District Tuition - Comm. Jr. College	2,212,681	.385	3.291 percent
8. State School Equalization	187,861,455	32.710	Total State Sources \$229,073,384
9. State Income Tax Rebate	13,972,405	2.433	39.886 percent
10. Fort Leavenworth School District	687,276	.120	
11. State Junior College Aid Fund	6,027,302	1.050	
12. Community Junior College Out-District Aid	2,212,681	.385	
13. State Safety Fund	1,200,424	.209	
14. State Special Education Services Aid	9,476,305	1.650	
15. State Vocational Education	490,000	.085	
16. State School Food Assistance	945,000	.165	
17. State Area Vocational-Technical	2,586,176	.450	
18. State Manpower Development Training Act	95,000	.017	
19. State Post Secondary Aid for Voc. Ed.	3,459,360	.602	
20. State Adult Basic Education	60,000	.010	
21. Federal Elementary and Secondary Act - Title I	12,917,413	2.249	Total Federal Sources\$ 50,576,183
22. Federal Elementary and Secondary Act - Title II	864,982	.151	8.806 percent
23. Federal Elementary and Secondary Act - Title III	1,065,811	.186	
24. Federal Elementary and Secondary Act - Title VI	423,369	.074	
25. Federal Vocational Amendments of 1968	5,973,051	1.040	
26. Federal Manpower Development Training Act	1,303,915	.227	
27. P.L. 874, Maintenance and Operation	8,500,000	1.480	
28. National Defense Education Act - Voc. Ed.	445,387	.078	
29. Adult Basic Education	810,000	.140	
30. Education Professions Development Act - Voc. Ed.	111,087	.019	
31. Federal Food Assistance	18,161,168	3.162	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$574,321,168</b>	<b>100.000</b>	

Not included are the following items:

Kansas Technical Institute - State	\$ 725,747
Federal	39,550
School Service Annuity - State	10,513,692

\*Does Not Include:

Bond and Interest, K-12	\$32,209,186
Bond and Interest, Junior College	3,764,294
Special Capital Outlay (Special Building)	18,289,121
Special Assessments, Junior College	23,725
Special Assessments	689,831
Sewer	13,738
Capital Outlay, Junior College	737,724

\*Does not Include:

Municipal University	
General Operation	\$1,122,334
Bond and Interest	1,238,990

As of September, 1975

Compiled by State Department of Education, 120 East Tenth Street, Topeka, Kansas, 66612

operating the grades K through 12. + (A table showing the detailed breakdown of fund sources is enclosed).

+Expressed in dollar amounts, almost \$188 million was provided by the state school equalization fund in 1974-5 as compared with the somewhat more than \$2 million in 1937-8.

#### **SCHOOL ORGANIZATION AND REORGANIZATION**

School Organization and Reorganization. Adel Throckmorton, having been both a county superintendent and state superintendent of schools in Kansas for many years, has presented an excellent treatment of this subject in his book, "Kansas Educational Progress", 1858 to 1967, pp. 82 through 88. I will summarize some of the highlights. As early as 1858 in territorial days, county superintendents were authorized to divide their counties into "convenient" school districts. "Convenient" in those early days meant arranging the schools within walking distance of pupil's homes, preferably not more than two miles. By 1896, 9,284 school districts had been created in Kansas, but by 1895, 390 districts which had been organized were no longer conducting school because of shifting residential patterns. Since eighth grade graduation or less was the norm for students in the early days, rural districts made no provision for a high school education nor did they have the financial means to do so. But as time went on more and more Kansans demanded a high school education. In 1876 the legislature authorized the organization of school districts by cities of the first and second class. These districts were large enough to offer both elementary and secondary education and they operated outside the authority of the county superintendent.

By the turn of the century and in the early part of the new century, a number of new kinds of school districts were established to try to take care of the high school problem. Among these were: county high school districts in 1886, rural high school districts in 1915, and community high school districts in 1923. These districts, of course, were not co-terminous with the old rural school districts, they didn't include all of the rural districts, and they were separate entities and so required separate tax levies and school boards. Throckmorton calls all of this "double decking." Organizationally it was a mess, but the situation continued until 1945. Throckmorton describes the first effort to make a change. "The first major attempt to correct some of the inadequacies of the school district system was made by the legislature in 1945 by the enactment of legislation that required all elementary districts to be reorganized. All public officials in any way connected with the movement had a rough time of it until the act was declared to be unconstitutional in 1947, on the grounds that the legislature did not have authority to delegate legislative powers to the county committees that were in charge of the program. In spite of the uproar much was accomplished under the 1945 legislation as the legislature validated all redistricting completed before the Supreme Court declared the reorganization acts to be unconstitutional. By March 1, 1947, more than 45 percent of the 8,112 elementary districts in existence on March 1, 1945 had been affected in some way by the reorganization movement with 3,700 of them having been disorganized or had boundaries changed. Approximately 4,300 districts remained unchanged."

The reasons for the massive opposition to school consolidation efforts are clear enough. The schools were

more than schools - they were community centers around which a major part of community activity revolved. School district communities usually had a sense of identity which they did not wish to see disturbed. Rural people are traditionally conservative and slow to change (less so now than in the past) and they probably did not have a very good sense of the "quality of education" issue involved.

By 1961 the situation had gone from bad to worse and the legislature made an abortive effort to pass a unification law but opposition was strong and the Supreme Court indicated it would hold the proposed law unconstitutional. But by 1963 the legislature was determined and worked carefully with the attorney general to insure that the law would meet tests of constitutionality and it was passed. Amendments were added in 1965. Whereas in 1963 there were still 1,840 districts of 18 different kinds in Kansas, by 1967 there were only 339,330 unified under the acts of 1963 and 1965.

Summarized by Madison Coombs

#### **PROGRESS OF EDUCATION IN REPUBLIC COUNTY**

November 23, 1963

According to the records, the first school was held in 1867-1868 in Grant Township, Section Seven. Later, it was organized as District Number One, March 23, 1878. Since that time, a number of districts were organized until there were 126 school districts. This was done so that every child within walking distance of receiving an education. Since that time, the decrease in rural population has decreased the number of rural school districts considerably:

- 1910. . 129 Grade Districts and 3 High School Districts
- 1920. . 103 Grade School Dist. -13 High School Districts
- 1940. . 101 Grade Districts and 8 High School Districts
- 1950. . 67 Grade Districts and 8 High School Districts
- 1960. . 24 Grade Districts and 8 High School Districts
- 1963. . 15 Grade Districts and 7 High School Districts

The 1963 State Legislature passed a unification law whereby proposing that each county in the state consolidate all districts into one or more districts with at least 400 pupils, Grade I through XIII, with a valuation of at least \$2,000,000.00 and two hundred square miles. A committee of six persons was elected as a Planning Committee. These people were: Mrs. H. W. Reece. Scandia, chairman, Mr. Kenneth Sherwood, Vice-Chairman, Mr. Chester McChesney, Munden, Mr. Donald Eickman, Belleville, Mr. Harold Richardson, Belleville, Mr. Joe Hanzlick, Belleville, and Mr. W. J. Matthias, County Superintendent, Secretary. The Committee is in the process of unifying the county. This is to be completed by June 30, 1965.

W. J. Matthias

County Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Republic County  
Belleville, Kansas

Mrs. Victor H. Ward  
Secretary

#### **CONSOLIDATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

Researched by Mildred Moore

In Republic County consolidation of schools began at an early date. By September 19, 1908 there were three consolidated districts: Districts 101 and 118 were known as District 118; 74 Liberty and 46 Courtland became Con. 2; and 23 Norway and 95 Hungry Hollow was known as



# REPUBLIC COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

March 1, 1949

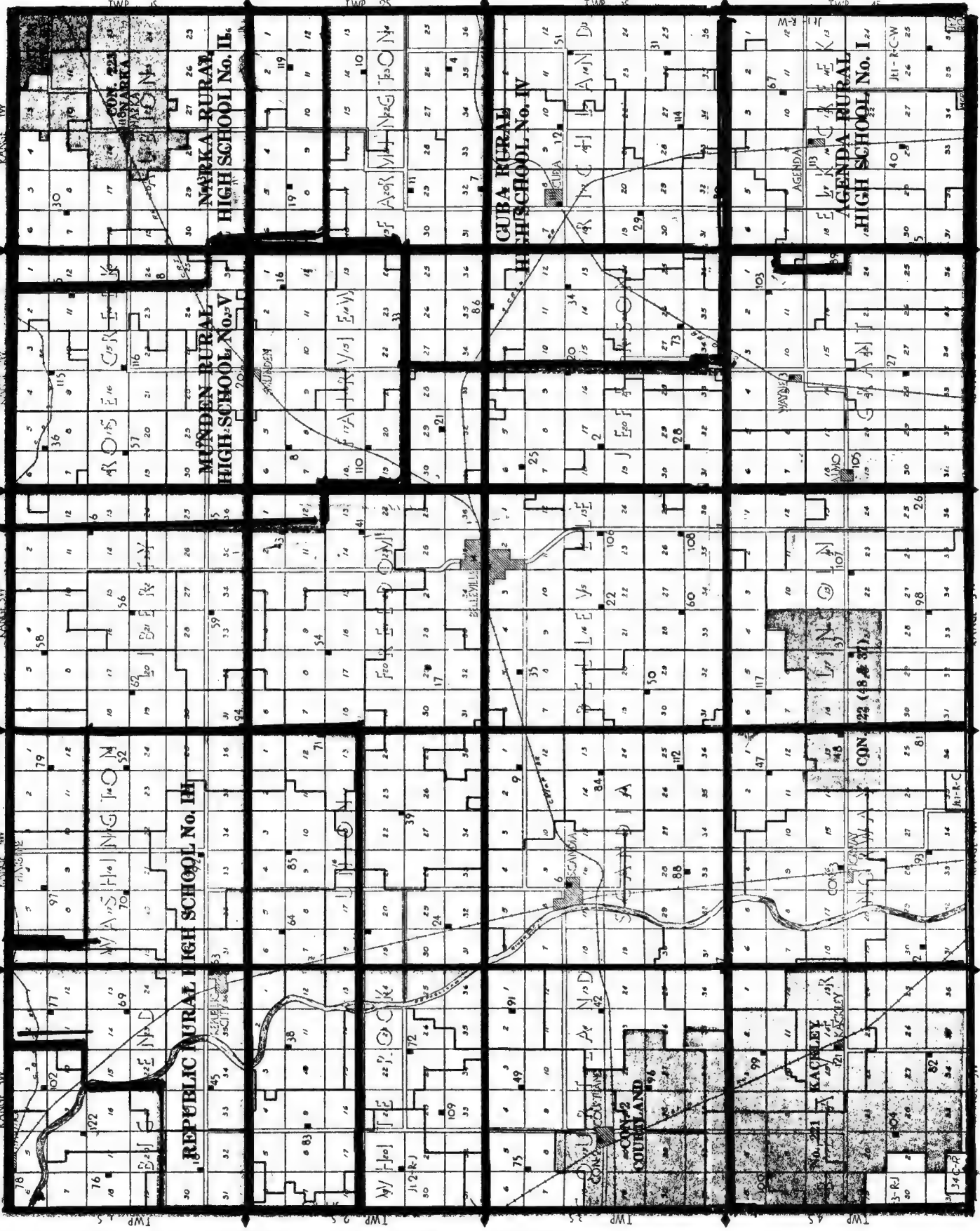
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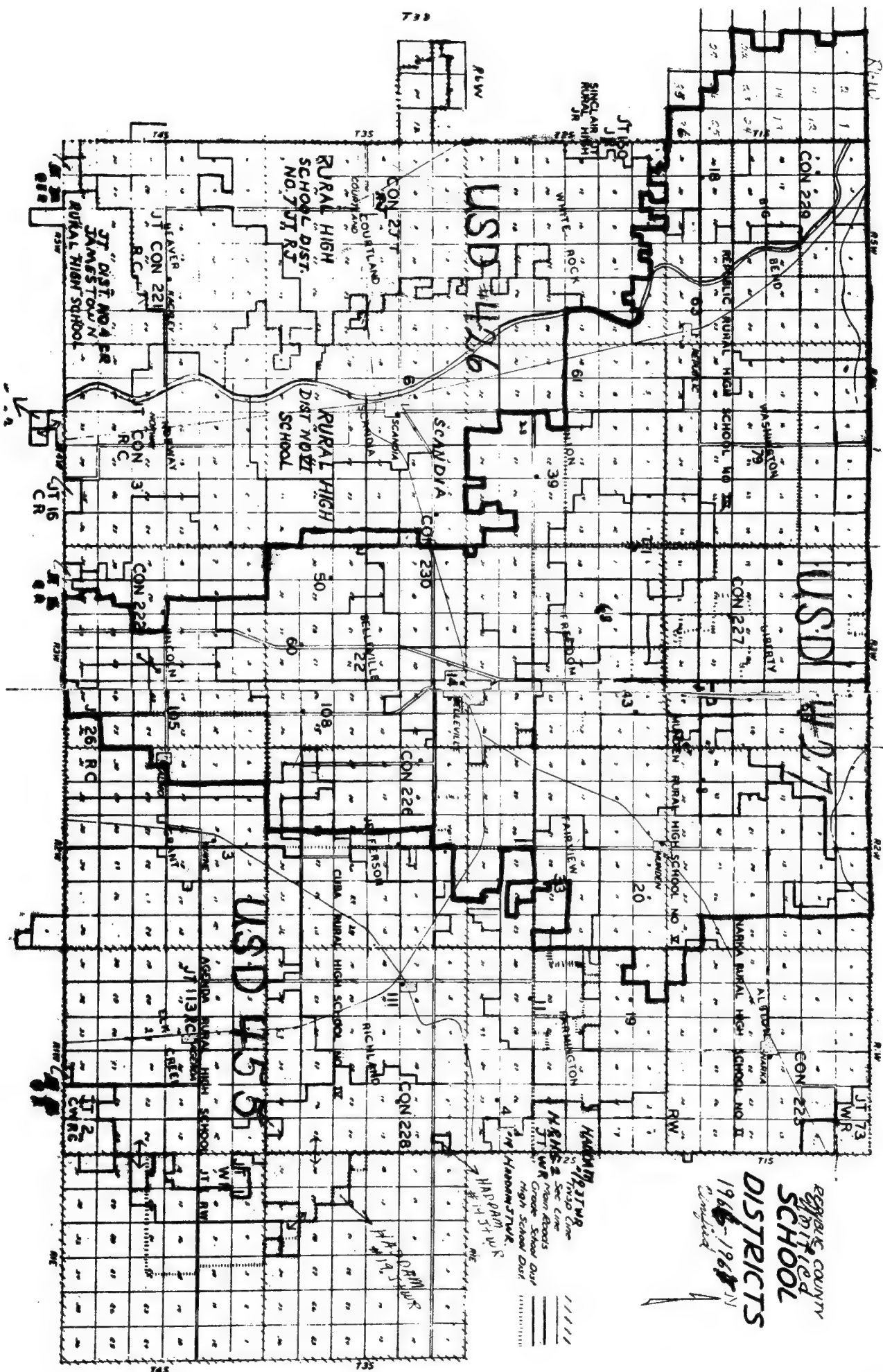
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RANGE 6W

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sorganized by Senate Bill 4 Section No. 10 of the Kansas Legislature of 1951.

These districts closed by order of Senate Bill No. 4, Sec. 10, 1951:

5 Stony Point (east)	77 Prairie Dell
10 Crescent	78 Warwick
24 Pleasant Valley	91 Little Brick
32 Oak Creek	94 Dry Lake
36 Victor	97 White Lock
41 Willow Dale	102 Triumph
45 Pine	106 Union Ridge
49 Lawrence	107 Beulah
52 Washington	110 Mount Erie
58 Prairie Flower	114 Thomas
64 Prairie Rose	119 Island
70 Mount Vernon	

Consolidated 22 Belleville Center from old Dist. 22, 50 and 60. Organization date May 21, 1962

Dist. 8 Beck and Old White Lock Schools

Dist. 79 Washington Central as told in that history

Con. 221 Kackley as told in that history

Cons. 222 Stony Point from Dist. 37 and 48, July 8, 1948

Cons. 223 Narka 118 and Star 44, August 25, 1948

Con. 224 Lone Tree 117 and Highland 47 Mar. 8, 1949

Con. 225 Superior No. I, and Red Top 112, Mar. 25, 1949

Con. 226 McCune 25 and Pleasant View 2, Apr. 26, 1949

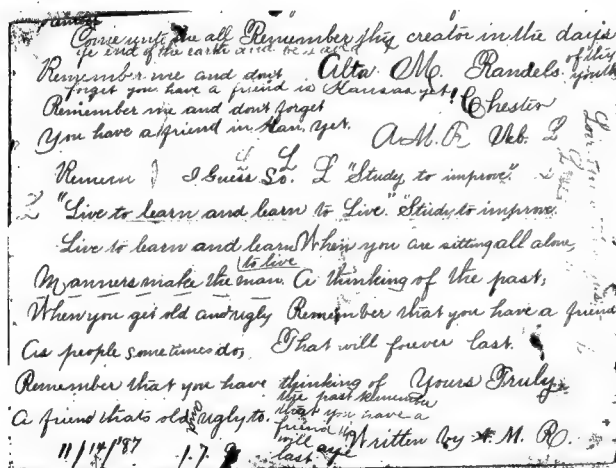
Con. 227 Liberty Center 56, Beauchamp 59 and Milner 62, Mar. 2, 1950

Con. 228 Meter 31 and Bates 51 May 12, 1950.  
Disorganized Apr. 18, 1961

Con. 229 Rosemound

Con. 230 Rydal-Summit Point 35 and Central 9, Apr. 21, 1952.

In 1963 the Kansas Legislature passed the Unification Law which was to be completed by June 30, 1965. On July 1, 1965 Republic County had three Unified Districts: USD 426 consisting of Courtland, Scandia, Kackley, and Norway; USD 427 with Belleville, Munden, Republic, and Narka; 455 composed of Cuba, Agenda, Talmo and Wayne.



The penmanship of years gone by was an artistic accomplishment. Mr. Costolo was particularly noted for his frills and flourishes, as well as his ability to motivate his students to emulate him.

Mrs. Frank Larkins of Chester, Nebr. has shared a sheet from her mother's penmanship book dated 11-14-87. She has done some shading on her name - Alta M. Randels.

## EIGHTH GRADE COMMENCEMENTS

So far as this Committee has been able to ascertain from the early records of pictures and memorabilia, the first graduations from eighth grade began in the 1890's. We do not find an exact date, but in Mrs. Lillian Chapman's notes she thinks 1892, was the first commencement. We do know that some older students who had really stopped going to school went back about this time to obtain diplomas and some of them went on to take examinations and teach school.

These early commencements were held at central places over the county, usually in the small towns. Orations were given by every graduate receiving a diploma. The following is a program (courtesy Mrs. Enest Stocker) arranged by Miss Lucy Howard, County Superintendent for 1899 Commencement Exercises at Narka, Talmo, Providence Chapel, Kackley, Republic, Pleasant View, Agenda and Ida. Other places were used another year, if it were more convenient.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Herrman have loaned us a copy of the final examination questions used at Norway, May 15, 1892. These same questions were used at designated centers over the County. The questions were made out by E. L. Glasgow, history; F. E. Way, grammar; Costolo made the penmanship, reading and arithmetic; D. W. Duskin, orthography (spelling); Miss Mary E. Beecher, geography; and Miss Kate Mallon, psychology. It is of interest that Costolo was superintendent and that E. L. Glasgow became superintendent next.

So much change has transpired in the way that teachers recommended pupils for graduation. An early register from Kunkel School (1878)1883) gave these directions to the teacher: SCHOLARSHIP - Mark the value of the recitation with one of the five following figures (zeros denoting a failure): 1, very poor; 2, poor; 3, fair; 4, good; 5, perfect. To denote perfect scholarship, the squares may be left blank, marking only deficient lessons. Instructions were given to average these and then average with the monthly examinations. A number of years later percentage grades replaced the figures 1-5, but still the averages were used as a basis for promotion to the next reader - but mainly, for the report card to parents and reports to the superintendent. Even deportment (behavior) or citizenship was graded percentage-wise.

During the early years of this century, the bi-monthly exams were given to pupils and the average of these exams was averaged with the yearly average to determine promotion. At the end of the seventh grade the student took part of his or her diploma examinations. At some point during the time after grades one through eight were established (1908) there came another change - the examinations were no longer made out by certain teachers of the county; they were made by specialists in the subject, or perhaps by the author of the text being used. For example, this examination in writing in 1931 was made out by L. H. Hausam, who was the author of the writing series.

Concerning the grades, in 1931 State Superintendent Geo. A. Allen, Jr. directed that "An average of 80 percent with no grade below 60 percent is required for graduation. Grades of 80 percent or more may be carried two years". He also said that "At the option of the county superintendent, credit may be given on school work not to exceed 50 percent of the subject".



## Teachers of Graduates.

DIST.	
6	H. A. STOWELL,
14	MARY HILL,
18	JOHN A. SEMPSROTT,
26	NANNIE NEWBURN,
28	ROSA KENT,
30	ERMA SPAFFORD,
32	C. N. SMITH,
35	BERTHA PEAKE,
38	BEDFORD MACKEEN,
40	EMMA HALL,
46	E. A. NICHOL,
54	ANNIE STUBBLEFIELD,
55	A. J. LEONARD,
59	EMERY VAN NORTWICK,
63	A. U. JARRETT,
68	ELSIE JOHNSON,
70	MARY LACEY,
77	E. J. RICHLEY,
79	CALLIE HELWICK,
80	ROSA B. MOORE,
82	ANNA RIMOL,
84	E. J. MYERS,
92	AGNES GLENN,
103	H. B. WALTER,
104	GRACE R. DAV,
105	J. W. KUHN,
107	C. E. SHERWOOD,
114	DELLA HOLLAND,
118	H. E. MOORE,
121	SYLVIA BLACKWOOD,
	H. I. R. & J. CORA KING.

## Common School Graduates.

CLASS OF  
1899.

Republic County, Kansas.

LUCY HOWARD,  
COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT

"We give our heads and our  
hearts to God; one country, one  
language, one flag."

TELEPHONE PRINT, BEULLEVILLE, ILL.

## Location and Dates for Commencement Exercises with Names of Graduates and Subjects of Essays or Orations.

### Harka, Friday Evening, May 12.

Prin. D. E. Moore, Leader.

DISTRICT.		SUBJECT.
118	Grace Luella Addington,	"Crusis."
118	Lillian May Larrabee,	"The Last Year of a Girl's School Life."
118	Emma Baier,	Class Poem.
118	Vornie Summers,	"Seeing The Bear Dance."
118	Ada Ray Miller,	"A Purpose in Life."
10	Roy F. Baker,	"Opportunities."

### Talmo, Saturday Evening, May 13.

Miss Nannie Newburn, Leader.

105	Florence Pettyjohn,	"What is an Education?"
105	Luella E. McClean,	"Class Prophecy."
105	Russell Bentley,	"The Hard Side of a Farmer's Life."
107	Myrtle Sherwood,	"Ad Astra Per Aspera."
107	Maud L. Shull,	"Procrastination The Thief of Time."
107	Emma L. Detrick,	"Woman's Place and Power."
26	Vina H. Johnson,	"This World is a Battlefield."
28	Rosa Kent,	"The Value of an Education."

### Providence Chapel, Monday Evening, May 22.

Dr. E. J. Myers, Leader.

84	Mary McGlashan,	"Industry."
84	Lottie West,	"Education."
35	John Duncan,	"The Philippines."
14	Sunshine Peake,	"The Trials of a School Girl."
14	Laura M. Brown,	"Schools."
6	Frances Davis,	"Looking Forward."

### Rackley, Tuesday Evening, May 23.

Miss Emma E. Ponac, Leader.

121	Maud Phillips,	"The Education that we Receive From our Ancestors."
121	Bayard A. Rackley,	"Independence of the Philippines."
103	Victor Florell,	"The Future of Cuba."
104	Fritiof Florell,	"An Imaginary Trip to Manila."
82	Anna O. Carlson,	"The Pleasures of Life."
82	Luther J. Carlson,	"Our Possessions in the Philippines."
32	Fanny Christensen,	"A Past Never Present."
32	Emma Paulson,	"Great Women."
6	Verne Rockhold,	"Turn Every Stone."

### Republic, Wednesday Evening, May 24.

Prin. A. U. Jarrett, Leader.

DISTRICT.		SUBJECT.
63	Bretta Price,	"Sketches of Holland Life."
92	Lulu E. Mercer,	"Success."
92	Charles Van Nortwick,	"The North American Indian."
79	Ethel K. Elliott,	"The Trans-Mississippi Exposition."
77	Nettie Vance,	"History of Kansas."
70	Ralph Stewart,	"Improvement of School House Grounds."
46	Jessie Mabel Davis,	"School from a Pupil's Point of View."
38	Floyd B. Shellhase,	"Fault Finding."
18	Ethel M. Angle,	"The Philippines."
11	R. & J. Clara M. Lyon,	"The Advantages of an Education."

### Pleasant View, Thursday Evening, May 25.

Mrs. R. T. Jellison, Leader.

59	Howard Zech,	"The Nobility of Labor."
59	Alex. Glenn,	"Our New Possessions."
59	A. J. G. Wilkes,	"Cuba."
59	James Helwick,	"Good Roads."
55	Maud L. Jellison,	"Kansas."
55	Harry Benson,	"The Beautiful and the Useful."
54	Ida Thompson,	

### Agenda, Saturday Evening, May 27.

Dr. R. L. Madden, Leader.

114	Emman E. Zavodsky,	"The Tariff."
40	E. R. Nutter,	"Expansion."
80	Mabel L. Harper,	"Home."
103	Elmer Pickel,	"The Development of a Century."
103	Melvin L. Marley,	"We Have Left the Bay; The Ocean is Before Us."

### Ida, Monday Evening, May 29.

Miss Elsie Johnson, Leader.

68	Everett Crum,	"Digging."
68	Mattie E. Crum,	"Ideals."
68	Adella Hoover,	"Thorns."
68	Edith M. Robenhouse,	"Nothing is Lost."
68	Ralph Ramsbottom,	"The Boy is Father to the Man."

A few years later, letter grades replaced percentage grades - A, excellent; B, good; C, fair or average; D, poor; and F, failure. So the cycle is complete - this is a five-point scale for grading except that letters replace the figures of a century ago!

Of interest to teachers, in particular, is the gradual change in the type of questions used for diploma examinations, or for any testing program. The example of questions used in 1892 shows essay questions which required skill in composition, penmanship, and the knowledge of the subject. In the 1931 questions, there are matching answers, multiple-choice, and filling a blank in a statement although some discussion or essay questions are used. (Questions are courtesy of Marie Sonntag.)

Teachers are still required to evaluate students by using various tools - specialized tests, intelligence tests, achievement tests, etc. but performance of the pupils day by day is an important part of that evaluation also. Records of progress each year the child is in school are taken into account for promotion to ninth grade. Many

schools over the state have no diploma presentation until the end of the twelfth grade.

The First Central Commencement of the Republic County Common Schools was held at the Methodist church in Belleville on Friday, June 14, 1918 at 2:00 p.m. The class motto: "Our Country First" and the colors: red and white seem to reflect the patriotic feeling following the First World War. The girls wore "middy dresses" with red ties. (The writer recalls that she wore a white middy dress with blue tie the next year - 1919). The County Superintendent, Miss Mary Jansky, initiated the Central Commencement. The Belleville Chamber of Commerce for many years served dinner to all the graduates. The coming of better roads and the automobile made this Central Commencement a logical and progressive idea. Many little towns still held their own commencements in addition to it.

(Program and picture are courtesy of Mrs. Howard Anderson)

In the Unified Districts of the County Eighth Grade Commencements are observed with a graduation

## Questions for the Examination at Norway, Republic County, Kansas, May 15th. 1892.

PERSONAL.—1 name. 2 postoffice. 3 age. 4 No. of district in which you live. 5 name of present or last teacher.

RULES.—1, use legal or foolscap paper. 2, pencils may be used for all writing, except your specimen of penmanship, when ink should be used. 3 Write only upon one side of your paper. 4. The manuscript of applicants who have communicated will not be graded. 5, Fold carefully and write the name of the branch and your name across the proper end of your manuscript.

### HISTORY—E. L. GLASGOW.

- 1 What do you know of the mound builders.
- 2 Name four French explorers, four Spanish, five English
- 3 What people settled southern North America, central North America?
- 4 Name six historical Indians.
- 5 Name, give date and locate four important battles of the Revolutionary war.
6. What were the causes of the Civil war?
- 7 Name the important events of Jefferson's administration
- 8 Who were Mason and Stoddell and with what affair connected? Who was John Brown, Plumb, Longfellow, Thaddeus Stevens?
- 9 What was the compromise of 1850?
- 10 What was the Kansas Nebraska bill. The Monroe doctrine. The Willmot Proviso?

### GRAMMAR—F. E. WAY.

- 1 Define English Grammar and tell why you study it.
- 2 Name, define and give examples of the nine parts of speech.
- 3 Define voice, mood, case and tense.
- 4 Classify the words in the following sentence: An examination for the graduation of the pupils of the district schools was held in Cuba in March.
- 5 Outline the noun, the verb.
- 6 Parse all the words in this sentence: Little Johnny gathered the apples which fell from our trees
- 7 Give and illustrate four rules for the use of Capitals.
- 8 Write a simple, a complex and a compound sentence.
- 9 Analyze: "Cuba is in the state which is called scudflower."
- 10 Write a composition of twenty lines on one of the following subjects, winter, summer, farming, education, fishing, music.

### PENMANSHIP—COSTOLO.

- 1 Name three systems of penmanship.
- 2 Which system are you most familiar with?
- 3 Which do you consider most important, analysis, or measurement and spacing of letters?
- 4 Name the capitals that are less than three spaces in height.
- 5 Write the semicompound letters.
- 6 Group both capitals and small letters according to some system of penmanship.
- 7 How many movements used in writing, and which do you consider most practical?
- 9 What is slant? Give the different degrees of slant used in writing.
- 10 Write six lines as a specimen of your penmanship

### ORTHOGRAPHY—D. W. DUKIN.

- 1 Define orthography.
- 2 Make and give name of the diacritical marks.
- 3 Classify the sounds in the English language.
- 4 Define substitutes, and give examples
- 5 Define diphthong, triphthong, mute.
- 6 What is an elementary sound? A primitive word? A derivative word?
- 7 Define accent, disyllable, trisyllable, polysyllable.
- 8 Give two rules for spelling.
- 9 Give five words commonly misspelled.
- 10 Mark diacritically the following words: Kansas, bubble, city, bruise, remunerative.

### GEOGRAPHY—MISS MARY E BEECHER.

- 1 Define geography; name the divisions and define each.
- 2 Name the continents and oceans in the order of their size.

- 3 What are the five principal industries of mankind and define each?
- 4 Define a cape; name and locate one of each continent and Australia.
- 5 Name the different races of people and their places of habitation.
6. Define a river and describe four river systems.
- 7 Name the countries of South America, also the ranges of three mountain systems of the world.
- 8 Locate China and Japan and give a description of their people.
- 9 Name eleven states and five territories giving capitals of each.
- 10 Define island; name and locate seven largest of the world.

### READING—COSTOLO.

- 1 What is necessary for the proper reading of a selection?
- 2 Define pitch, monotone, emphasis, form, inflection, articulation. Give the pitch, force, form and rate used in reading the following selection: Have you heard the story that gossip tell Of Burns of Gettysburg? No? Ah, well! Brief is the — that hero earns Briefer the story of poor John Burns; He was the fellow who won renown— The only man who didn't back down When the rebels rode through his native town; But held his own in the fight next day. When all his town folks ran away. 'Twas in July, sixty-three, The very day that General Lee, The flower of the Southern chivalry, Baffled and beaten backward reeled From a stubborn Meade and a barren field.
- 4 Read the above selection to your examiner.

### PHYSIOLOGY—MISS KATE MALLON.

- 1 Name the bones of the trunk.
- 2 Give structure of the skin.
- 3 Name fluids used in digestion and give use of each
- 4 Of what does the circulatory system consist?
- 5 What are the two purposes of the circulation?
- 6 What is a gland? Name the important glands in the body.
- 7 Give the general plan of respiration.
- 8 Describe the brain.
- 9 How are nerves divided on the basis of use?
- 10 What are the evil effects of tobacco?

### ARITHMETIC—COSTOLO.

- 1 Define arithmetic, notation, numeration, fraction, interest, cancellations
- 2 What is the value of the following:  $(634 + 232) \div (364.05 - 2.005)$ ?
- 3 On what does the value of a fraction depend? If you multiply or divide both numerator and denominator by the same number what effect does it have on the fraction?
- 4 Find the G.C.D. and the L.C.M. of the following numbers, 12, 6, 24, 30, 42.
- 5 Reduce  $\frac{475}{100}$  to a simple fraction. What is a compound fraction? A simple fraction?
- 6 How many bushels will a wagon box 10 ft long, 3 ft wide and 1 ft deep hold? How many gallons?
- 7 How many acres in a field 120 rods long and 35 rods wide.
- 8 I bought two cows paying \$25 for each of them. I sold one at a gain of 25 per cent and the other at a loss of 25 per cent. Did I gain or lose, if so how much?
- 9 If 3 horses in  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a month eat  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a ton of hay, how long will five-sixths of a ton last 5 horses? Give written analysis.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1931.

A. M.	P. M.
Writing (For 8th Grade)	Our English (Grammar) (For 8th Grade)
United States History (For 8th Grade)	Agriculture (For 8th Grade)
Spelling (For 8th Grade, following alternation plan)	

## WRITING.

(L. H. Hausam.)

### FOR EIGHTH GRADE ONLY.

- How should the penholder point in relation to the writing arm, and how stand in relation to the desk?
- Make the capital letters, grouping them properly, and answer the following questions:
  - In which of the following capitals is the second part as high as the first: *N, M, H, K, W, V, U, Y*?
  - Which capitals begin with the small loop?
- Which capitals use the count of two; three; four; five?
- Make half a line of the two space compact oval drill and half a line of the two space push-pull drill. Name three things that should be kept in mind in learning to make these drills properly.
- Write the following sentence, and answer the questions:  
*Fill the bucket with wet sand.*
  - Which should be made first, the stem or cap of the capital *F*?
  - In which word or words is the final *t* used?
  - In which word is the final *d* used?
  - How many straight down strokes are used in the sentence?
  - Which small letters should be the same height as the capital *F*?
- Is the cross of the small *x* made upward or downward?
- Is the small *s* round or pointed at the top?
- How do the small *d* and *p* compare in height with the beginning of the stem strokes in capitals *D* and *P*?
- Arrange the following small letters in groups according to their height above the base line: *b, d, e, f, h, i, k, l, m, n, p, r, s, t, v.*
- Should the paper be held the same in relation to the writing arm for making the push-pull drill as for making the oval drill?

## UNITED STATES HISTORY.

## OUR ENGLISH.

(Mrs. Mattie D. Mitchell.)

### FOR EIGHTH GRADE ONLY.

- Name the parts of speech, and give an example of each.
- Give five ways in which nouns form their plurals. Illustrate.
- Name the personal pronouns. Why are these words called personal pronouns?
- Analyze or diagram: The man who has riches has great responsibilities.
- Write the principal parts of the following verbs: am, do, bid, choose, know, see, burst, ride, fall, write.
- What kind of words do adjectives modify? Adverbs?
- Mark *True* or *False*:
  - "My plan is that we should earn money." That we should earn money is an adjective clause. ( )
  - "People who are wise are cautious." Who are wise is an adverbial clause. ( )
- Sentences according to form are \_\_\_\_\_.  
Sentences according to use are \_\_\_\_\_.
- Match the terms in the first column with those in the second:
  - A gerund is a verb form ( ) a word used instead of a noun.
  - The antecedent of a pronoun is ( ) in person and number.
  - A verb agrees with its subject ( ) in person, number and gender.
  - A noun or pronoun used as the subject of a sentence ( ) ending in ing, that partakes of the nature of a noun.
  - A participle is a verb form ( ) is in the nominative case.
  - A pronoun is ( ) the word for which it stands.
  - A pronoun should agree with its antecedent ( ) used partly as an adjective and partly as a verb.
  - A noun or pronoun used as the direct object of a verb or a preposition ( ) is in the dative case.
  - A verb that forms its past tense and past participle by adding *d*, *ed*, or *t* ( ) is in the accusative case.
  - A noun or pronoun used as the indirect object of a transitive verb ( ) is a regular verb.

## AGRICULTURE.

(Mabel Sherrod.)

### FOR EIGHTH GRADE ONLY.

## Second Annual Central Commencement July 15, 1919

### PROGRAM

Graduates' March ..... Marjorie Bell  
Invocation ..... Rev. C. W. Stevens  
Composition (first prize) ..... Frank Celoud, Dist. 111  
Composition (second prize) ..... Elnora Douplik, Dist. 89  
Piano Solo ..... Irene Machande, Dist. 37  
Reading, "When Father was Stumped" ..... Lucy Belle Thom, Dist. 14  
Composition, (third prize) ..... Lloyd Murphy, Dist. 21  
Vocal Solo ..... Isabelle Collins  
Violin Solo ..... "Blosser"  
Address to Graduates ..... Elsie Kadlets  
Presentation of Diplomas ..... Elizabeth Warning, Holton, Kansas  
Presentation of Diplomas ..... Mary Jansky, Co. Supt.

## Program

Graduates' March ..... Marjorie Bell  
Invocation ..... Rev. McKeever  
STAR SPANGLED BANNER  
Flag Salute ..... Graduates  
Vocal Solo ..... Vern Wilcox  
Reading of Prize Essay  
Selection ..... Republic Girls' Quartet  
Piano Solo ..... Mary Hays.  
Address, ..... Mrs. Hattie-Moore-Mitchell  
Pittsburg Normal School  
Presentation of Diplomas,  
Mary Jansky, Co. Supt.

program and presentation of diplomas. So we have decentralized the commencement, because diplomas are no longer issued by a County Superintendent. When the office closed in 1966, commencements at the county seat were discontinued. Diplomas are now issued by the superintendents of Unified Districts by direction of the Boards of Education. Eighth Grade Examinations as they used to be have long been discontinued and students are recommended for graduation by their teachers.

## SCHOOL ARCHITECTURE

Have you ever wondered why certain spots were chosen for the early schools? Why did so many of them look alike? Why would you know before you walked into the building that the other end of the room would likely have a blackboard and a teacher's desk with pupils' desks lined up in rows? Olive Fojt found in the 1878 record book for District No. 65 this page that she thought was most enlightening. We know that the first Dist. No. 5 provided for the building of one out-house only, but here is the reason for two!

# SCHOOL ARCHITECTURE.

*Before presenting the Plans and Elevations of School Buildings, I have deemed it important to make the following suggestions in regard to a few practical points.*

## 1. SITE FOR SCHOOL HOUSES.

Healthfulness is an important consideration. Avoid swamps, stagnant pools, and low places. Some select low ground for the sake of shelter in winter. The best way, however, to secure shelter is to build a warm house and keep it in good repair. In this State, every school-house should be so situated as to have access to the south wind during the summer season. The north side or north foot of a hill is undesirable. Next to healthfulness is beauty of location. Build on the most attractive spot if practicable. Some are tenacious to have the house exactly in the center. It is much better, however, to locate a half a mile or more from the center, provided a more choice spot can be secured. Let not selfishness and stubbornness stand in the way. Every good citizen should be willing to yield in this respect. It is far better for children to walk a little farther to a beautiful spot, than spend six hours each day where the surroundings are uninviting. The site itself should be an education.

## 2. FRONT OF BUILDING.

The best front is that toward the east. It is important that a school-room have one end unbroken either by windows or doors, for black-boards and teacher's stand. The rear end is usually occupied for that purpose. But if the school-house fronts north, the other end must be either cut up by windows, or else the room is deprived of the benefit of the prevailing south wind during the summer season. If the building fronts south, the wind sweeps through the entry along the aisles, whenever a door opens, thus continually blowing dust about the room and into the lungs of teacher and scholars. A south front on this account is objectionable. If the house faces west, the school-room is exposed to the piercing west and north west winds of winter. A common entry-way will not wholly obviate this inconvenience, for when the inside doors are open the outside doors will also be usually open. A west front, however, is better than a south, from the fact that in summer the breezes can pass through the windows from side to side of the building. But, other things being equal, AN EAST FRONT IS THE BEST.

## 3. OUT-HOUSES.

Every school-house designed for both sexes, should have two out-houses. Many a child of delicate and sensitive organism contracts permanent physical injury, and becomes the victim of untimely death, by delaying to obey the calls of nature

at the proper time. The too prevalent custom is to build one out-house with two compartments. It is far better, however, to build a separate out-house for each sex, on the rear of the lot, and at some distance apart. Not only should such buildings be erected, but care should be taken that they are kept constantly in proper condition.

## 4. LIGHTNING-RODS.

As the best summary of directions on this subject, and the most authoritative, I give below the very valuable opinion of Prof. Joseph Henry, of the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D. C., as stated in a letter addressed to N. Capen, Esq., of Boston, Mass., under date of May 4, 1870:—

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE ERECTION OF LIGHTNING-RODS.

1. The rod should consist of round iron, of about one inch in diameter; its parts, throughout the whole length, should be in perfect metallic continuity, by being secured together, by coupling ferrules.
2. To secure it from rust, the rod should be coated with black paint, itself a good conductor.
3. It should terminate in a single platinum point.
4. The shorter and more direct the course of the rod to the earth, the better; bendings should be rounded, and not formed in acute angles.
5. It should be fastened to the building by iron eyes, and may be insulated from these by cylinders of glass (I don't, however, consider the latter of much importance).
6. The rod should be connected with the earth in the most perfect manner possible, and nothing is better for this purpose than to place it in metallic contact with the gas pipes, or, better, the water-pipes of the city. This connection may be made by a ribbon of copper or iron soldered to the end of the rod at one of its extremities, and wrapped around the pipe at the other. If a connection of this kind is impracticable, the rod should be continued horizontally to the nearest well, and then turned vertically downward until the end enters the water as deep as its lowest level. The horizontal part of the rod may be buried in a stratum of pounded charcoal and ashes. The rod should be placed, in preference, on the west side of the building. A rod of this kind may be put up by an ordinary blacksmith. The rod in question is in accordance with our latest knowledge of all the facts of electricity. Attempted improvements on it are worthless, and, as a general thing, are proposed by those who are but slightly acquainted with the subject.

JOSEPH HENRY.



### SCHOOL BOARDS AFTER CLOSING OF THE COUNTRY SCHOOLS

A question, which should be answered is why do country schools continue to have school boards after the school has been closed? The stories written of many of these schools state that the school had been closed at a certain date. Still, one will find records and listings of a school board for many years there-after.

Generally, when a country school had too few pupils, it was closed. But that school district still continued. So school boards were continued until the school district was disorganized. During this period of time the children in the school district had to be sent to other schools. The school district had to pay some one for transportation and tuition to the other schools taking them. The education of the children in the closed district had to be considered. The handling of this and the payment for this education and the transportation was taken care of by these boards. School buildings and equipment had to be sold and money collected. Finally the finances of the district had to be balanced.

The school districts had to be reset into a boundary and to a district that could absorb the territory which also had a school. Then after all this, the school district would be disorganized by the County Superintendent.

Written by E. F. Stepanek.

### EXPLANATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER PROBLEM

In the earliest days of settlers in Republic County, there were no schools. If there were, they were very few and far away. So the children were taught by their parents in private groups in private homes. These are referred to and mentioned in some of the family histories. These places could have been numerous, but only a few are recorded and known. The situation was the same wherever there were children and early settlers.

No doubt in some of the earliest meetings of the settlers and the commissioners, this problem was brought up. It is believed they then set up the school districts, calling them such as School District No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, etc. These first districts were laid out according to settlements as they were made. Rarely was there a school actually built within them until some later date.

When these first districts were mapped, the area population was small and the districts large. Pleasant Hill had an area of 6 miles by 12 miles. This made a coverage of 72 square miles. Then the Cuba settlement area had an area of 9 miles by 15 miles. This was a coverage of 135 square miles. Other areas that became school districts could have been either smaller or larger. But as time went on and there were more and more of these settlers in all areas and the population growing, the school districts were made smaller. In the changing of these districts in size, their numbers became intermixed. Also, in some cases one district would even overlap another.

After a few years, settlers began to build schoolhouses. The building of these schools did not follow a district number order. Thus our first, second, third, etc., schools built in the county, do not have the number corresponding to the numbered order of the school districts.

An example of this is: School District No. 2 a log cabin built at Pleasant Hill in 1867 in Jefferson Township. It was the first schoolhouse built in Republic County where school was held. It is known as No. 2 and not No. 1. It was first taught by Mrs. Margaret Tate, in the fall of 1867. Then there is No. 4, a log cabin school in Farmington Township at the Cuba Settlement, built in 1867. It was first taught by Miss Viola McBride in the spring or summer of 1868. This was the second school building built in Republic County, where school was held. Still this is called No. 4 and not No. 2. No doubt this is quite true with many of the earlier day schools, more so than with the later-built schools in the county.

This situation and explanation, I believe to be correct and true. So no doubt it will clarify many questions and doubts. Private schools were not considered, nor were the school district numbers in the building of the schools. The schools in these school districts were built as needed or after the money to build was raised. So these first schools built are not numbered as when they were built but by the school district number regardless of which was first, second or when built.

Researched and written by,  
E. F. Stepanek  
March 6, 1976

### REPUBLIC COUNTY'S BEGINNING

The Kansas Legislature's first record of Republic County was in 1860 after it was surveyed. It then stated



boundaries and gave the area its name. These boundaries have never been changed. Nebraska is to the north. The present counties in Kansas are: Washington to the east, Cloud to the south and Jewell to the west. It has been rumored that Republic county had extended farther to the south into what is now north Cloud county. This, is in error. The county's size is 30 miles east to west and 24 miles north to south. This area then was not populated. No doubt, pioneers had come and settled, but moved on. If so, there are no records about them today.

This area received its name from the largest stream that ran north-south through the west side. It was the Republican River. This river had received its name from the Pawnee Republic. The Pawnee Indians had one of their principal villages near the river bank in the area. This was located in the area near where the town of Republic now is. This Indian village is believed to have been the seat of government of the Pawnees.

After the disbandment of the Pawnee Indian village in the early 1800's there were no settlers in the now Republic area. Not until in 1861 had there been any permanent claims to the land made by pioneers. These first claims by settlers were in the southeast part of Republic County, in the townships of Grant, Lincoln and Jefferson. This "triggered" the settlers into making claims, homesteads and starting settlements in the county. Soon Sept. 7, 1868 Governor Crawford issued the following order, "it has been made to appear that the county of Republic, State of Kansas, contains the requisite number of inhabitants to entitle the people of said county organization". This same order or letter signed by Gov. Crawford states, "do hereby locate the county seat of Republic County at Pleasant Hill in District No. 2 in said county".

This location was a log cabin school built in 1867 and used that fall as the first school of the county. It was in the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 18 in Jefferson Township. Now, this well built log cabin school was also the county seat. All the official business of the county and board meetings were held here. At a meeting on Nov. 6, 1868, it was ordered to post a notice for the election for a permanent county seat. After the election in 1869 Belleville had the majority of the votes and the county seat was located there. On January 3, 1870, the commissioners at Pleasant Hill declared their next meeting should be in Belleville, if the new courthouse was then finished. If not, then to meet at the residence of P. P. Way, the county clerk.

There was not a finished courthouse in Belleville at the commissioner's next meeting on April 4, 1870. Events in history as to their meeting and the courthouse in Belleville at this time were indefinite and uncertain. The location of where the meeting was held is also unknown. It is believed that they decided that their meeting to be held at the log school house to be built on the east side of the square in Belleville that summer of 1870. It was decided the next meeting would be held at P. P. Way's residence in Grant Township. This next meeting was on April 8, 1870. The place of this meeting is not stated, but it is stated the courthouse in Belleville was not completed. It is also stated the log school house on the east side of the public square was built in the summer of 1870. So little positive information stated that it causes one to wonder if this log schoolhouse was intended by the commissioners to be also used as the courthouse and meeting place. There were questions, debates and elections as to the courthouse and its location.

Regardless of the true explanation, thus ended the county seat in the log cabin school, called Pleasant Hill in Jefferson Township.

#### PRAIRIE GROVE SCHOOL — DIST. NO. 1

The very first record of No. 1 school, also known as Prairie Grove, shows that for judicial purposes, Richard Hodges was appointed Clerk when the land was still under the jurisdiction of Washington county. Republic county was organized Sept. 8, 1868, but school was held in 1867 with Miss Adkins as the teacher for the summer term. The child of the first white settlers, Daniel and Matilda Myers was now six years old. Lincoln Myers and children of J. Cory family were ready for school.

At that time there was no schoolhouse, so Miss Adkins taught in part of Capt. Isaac Schooley's residence on the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 7, Grant Township in 1867. This would seem to have been a very advisable way to have school in that early day, since Capt. Schooley was considered a prudent and careful commander of the Salt Creek Militia. In his command stood every male inhabitant of lawful age, so it would seem the children were well protected.

The Schooley land was across the road east of the schoolhouse where it stands in Lincoln Township today. This now belongs to Mr. and Mrs. Guy S. Dewey. However, the first schoolhouse was located about one-quarter mile south of the present location on the east side of the road on land owned by John Cory and now belonging to Mrs. Doris Dewey-Smith.

There seems to be no record of the date this early school was built, but school was held there until the schoolhouse was destroyed by fire while the teacher, H. J. Blackwood, had gone home for supper. He had "banked" the fire in preparation for the box supper that evening of December 24, 1876, and when he returned, he found it had burned. Avis Snapp, his daughter now living in Belleville, says she remembers her father telling that the schoolhouse was small and had a round roof. For the remainder of that school year, Mr. Blackwood taught school in his own home, a dugout on his homestead located one-quarter mile south and a half-mile west on land now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Kelley. Mr. Blackwood's family was invited to move in with Philo P. Way's family on land now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Glenn McGinnis.

Like all hardships and obstacles to be overcome by these hardy pioneers, this one was immediately tackled. Since the first schoolhouse was built on Cory's land by his permission, and he did not wish to have the new one built there, the land for the new schoolhouse was sold by Ferd Kunkel for \$1 at the southeast corner of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 12-4-3 W. in Lincoln Township.

According to the records, G. W. Culver built the present schoolhouse for \$370 and S. Ferguson charged \$15.50 for building the stone foundation. They finished the school in time for the annual meeting on August 9, 1877. The coal house was built in 1878.

The boundaries of the district, at first, consisted of the distance which boys and girls could brave the rigors of winter to get an education. It was six miles wide and twelve miles long, embracing all the territory occupied by the first white settlers. Nine teachers later, on January 12, 1875, No. 1 District was reorganized with Sections 6, 7, 18, W $\frac{1}{2}$  5, 8, 17 Township 4, 2 and Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14 Township 4, 3 inside its boundaries. District II was the



northern part of these boundaries. Later, Orr School 28 was formed between No. I and No. II and when Talmo Dist. 105 was organized all but the Blackwood homestead of Sec. 13, 4, 3 in Lincoln Township and W½ Sec. 17 and Sec. 18 in Township 4-2 of Grant were set into that school district. School children were sent to other schools by 1935 and by 1969 the Unified District of Belleville contained most of this land.

Because of the great distances children had to go in those early years, and also because of the cold winter weather, ladies taught a summer term of three months for younger children and others who could be spared from home work. Men taught a six-month term in the winter after the corn was shucked and older boys and girls could be spared to go.

It is interesting to note that during the period from 1867 to 1884 A. Thompson received the highest salary of \$30 per month during the winter term and Miss Anna Sherwood received the lowest, \$16 per month, for a summer term. It was considered much more difficult to teach the winter term when larger and older pupils were enrolled and the enrollment was greater.

Here is the early roster of teachers from 1867 to 1884 (a year before the Union Pacific Railroad came through the district):

Miss Adkins	H. J. Blackwood
Eli W. Wagoner	Nettie Clark
Cordelia A. Bradley	R. A. Galloway
Clarissa Carbutt	E. T. Neel
Samuel T. Layton	Mary Engstrom
Leo Bullen	A. Thompson
Anna Sherwood	Cora Wray
R. A. Hamil	

At the annual school meeting in August of 1877, the school board and other patrons attending also adopted the text books to be used by the teacher. McGuffey's Readers, Stone's Arithmetic, and a Geography were adopted. The teacher determined at what level the child should study, by the reader he or she could read. It would seem the modern approach to individualized instruction had been used a century ago. The child resumed his study the next term where he or she had stopped. Thus, the student was also self-paced to proceed at his own speed.

By the courtesy of Miss Gertrude Wilber of Belleville, we have a picture of Prairie Grove, Dist. No. I 85 years ago when one of the well-known teachers of our county,

Mr. John Kuhn, was the teacher. It is said he often walked many miles to get to school when snow was piled too high for his horse and buggy. You can see the horse tied to the hitching post south of the school ground. The picture was taken the day before Valentine's Day in 1891. A few of the overshoes are visible on the step.

We are not able to identify each of the 27 pupils in the picture except that Gertrude tells us that Mary Lillian Chapman is the second girl from the right on the back row, Lily Myers is the first girl from the right on the back row, and William Westhausen is the sixth boy from the right on the front row.

At a Reunion of Dist. I in 1935 when the school sent pupils to other schools, Mrs. Lillian Chapman Wilber gave a talk. From her notes we know that there were 33 pupils enrolled in 8 months of school. Some of the names in 1891 were: Chas. Dallas, Lillie Myers, Maud Dixon, Will Henrie, Geo. Hubbard, James Lawrence, Geo. Tey, Oliver and Lewis Norlund, Emma Schrock, Bert, Grace and Archie Wilder.



For the two years preceding Mr. John Kuhn, Mrs. Hoffman taught school for \$35. After Mr. Kuhn, Louisa D. Kuhn taught 32 pupils. There were L. F. Cory, director; J. N. Henrie, clerk; Conrad Myers, treasurer. In 1892-3 Wm McIntyre was teacher for 35 pupils. There were 50 of school age in the district. In 1893-94 Miss Carrie Wilson "an inspiration to them all" was the teacher of 21 girls and 21 boys. That spring there were six or eight of us larger pupils graduated. I think that was the second year there had been a class to graduate from the common school. Miss Lillian Chapman was in school again in 1894-95 to prepare herself to teach. She had some "practice teaching" when the board permitted her to teach the two weeks between Miss Carnahan and Miss Elda Trainor of Scandia. There were 53 of school age in the district and 44 pupils! She says, "The pupils were kind and long-suffering with my mistakes and did not give me any

trouble". She went to Highland School the next year to teach. (1894-95)



When Lillian Chapman first entered school here in 1889, the board members were: Mr. Tey, W. G. Dallas, and O. S. Passmore. School records have been lost, but the Superintendent's record for 1902-03 shows Miss Julia Larson of Talmo was teacher and board members were: W. G. Dallas, W. K. Dixon, and B. T. Bashford.

By courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Nondorf of Scandia, Kansas, we have a picture of No. 1 school when Miss Mable Branson taught in the years 1910-12 as nearly as we can get it.

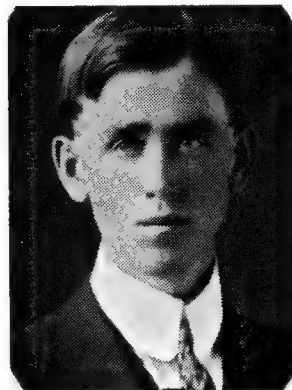


The pupils are: front row, left to right: Roy Strum, Conrad Myers, George Myers, Clare Nondorf, Veda Dixon, Lester Campbell, Vera Dixon, Lawrence Nondorf, Myrtle Nondorf Jensen. Second row: Clarence Strum, a Campbell boy, Jay Dixon, Edith Hayes, Rhoda Nondorf Danielson, Lydia Myers, Vera Snapp, Milda Nelson. Third row: a Campbell boy, Floyd Nondorf, Vernon Snapp, Mae Myers Kelly, Ivy Nondorf Jeardoe, Mable Nondorf Jeardoe, Ruth Myers Goppert, and the teacher, Miss Branson.

In 1906-07 Miss Hattie Jewell taught school and I. L. Feasel, W. K. Dixon, and W. L. Snapp were board

members.

In the mid-teens Mr. C. M. Leggitt taught two years at Prairie Grove when the little schoolhouse could hardly contain the large enrollments of thirty or more. He drove his horse and buggy from his home near Belleville each



day. His strong point was discipline "by the rod". Always a few willow switches lay across some nails above the blackboard where they were within his reach.

In 1917 his son Roy Leggitt was the teacher and also drove horse and buggy from home. A souvenir from the last day of school lists board members: Wm. Westhausen, director; W. S. Snapp, treasurer; and O. F. Dewey, clerk. The 30 pupils were: Lydia, Conrad, George, John, and Sarah Myers, Frank, Lillie, Lela, and Arvid Danielson, Jessie, Phoebe, Lonnie and Willie Smock, Rhoda, Lawrence, Myrtle and Clare Nondorf, Emma and Martha Norland, Hazel Westhausen, Harley Cousins, Vera, Veda, Lloyd, and Delor Dixon, Doris and Wayne Dewey, Jessie and Violet House and Glen Lund.

In later years, sons of W. L. Snapp, Glenn, and Ray Snapp served on the school board. The son of Conrad Myers, Jake Myers, also served the District No. 1. O. F. Dewey, Wm. Westhausen, and Jake Myers were serving when Miss Hazel Smith taught the school in 1926-27.



These pupils of fifty years ago were: Back row, left to right: Florence Westhausen, Edna Bingham, Delmar Dewey, Tobe Kinley, Guy Dewey. Middle row: Josephune Cousins, Virgie Westhausen, Clarice Dewey, Dorothy Kelly, Helen Snapp. Front row left to right: Marjorie Snapp, Henry George Passmore, and Albert Bingham.

On the day of the annual school meeting which was usually held the second week in April on Friday afternoon, it was quite customary for the teacher and the children to



go for a weiner roast on the creek close by. In this picture Miss Smith pictures four of the older boys "feeling their oats": Albert Bingham, Guy Dewey, Tobe Kinley, and Delmar Dewey. Lunch remains can be seen on the log close by.

Clifford Dewey, who had graduated was driving with Wayne to Concordia high school. They would many times "drop off" their sister Doris at Talmo where she was teaching in the Primary Room.

Teachers and young people of the area spent several weeks preparing "Misery Moon-the Hoodooed Coon" a three act play. It was presented in connection with a box supper. The cast were: Hazel Smith, Doris Dewey, Clifford Dewey, Ella Smith, Kenneth Sherwood, Richard Fox, Harold Kuhn, Arthur Smith and we believe Bertha Klaumann and Willie Klaumann. It proved to be successful and was repeated in other schools.

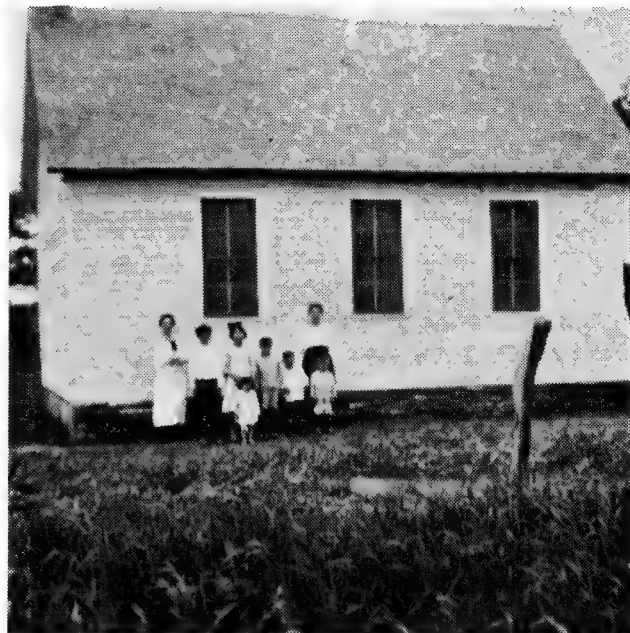
To drive to the location of the present school built in 1877, you travel north of the present Highway 148 at the corner which is nearly a half-mile west of Talmo. The school building is one and a half miles north up this Salt Creek road on land which is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. McKinley Nutter.

#### SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2 PLEASANT HILL OR PLEASANT VIEW

The first part of this history of District No. 2 is taken from A History of Republic County by J. O. Savage and was published in 1901. It embraced a full and complete account of all the leading events in its history, its first settlement to June 1, 1901. (Pictures courtesy of Mrs. Emma Makalous)

The first school district that was laid off or formed was six miles wide and twelve miles long, embracing all of the territory occupied by the first settlers of Republic County. On the division of this district by some mistake or for other reasons, that part having the first schoolhouse and where the first school was taught was named District No. 2, Pleasant View and was sometimes called Pleasant Hill. The above picture is the third schoolhouse at Dist. 2.

District No. 1 was formed from territory lying next to the south. The first schoolhouse in Republic County was built in 1867 and the first school was taught there in the fall of that year. The teacher was Mrs. Margaret Tate. This was a log house built by Peter Moe, a Swedish settler, for a dwelling. The building was purchased from Mr. Moe by the early settlers and finished up for a schoolhouse. It was located in the western part of what is now known as Jefferson Township. The building was 18x20 feet, 12 feet high



at the eaves. It was roofed with split oak shingles, known as shakes. There was one room, one door and two windows. It was ceiled overhead and had a good board floor. The first political convention and a few of the first meetings of the Board of County Commissioners were held in this building having been designated by Governor Crawford as the temporary county seat. The location is described by Mr. Savage as the North ½ of the SE¼ of Section 18 in Jefferson Township, 3 miles south and 3 east of Belleville. The land was owned by W. P. Peake. The members of the first school board were John H. Frint, director; James E. VanNatta, clerk; and J. C. Jackson, treasurer. The names of the pupils attending this first school are as follows: George Harris, Andrew Frint, Fred Frint, Mary M. Frint, Elizabeth Frint, Della Van Natta, Hattie Stout, Sanford Robbins, Mary Robbins, Inez Jackson, Eva Reily, Nettie Myers, Nate Myers, and George Myers.



In 1905 Miss Iva Johnson taught District 2 with 16 pupils: Back row, left to right: Bessie McNealy, Mabel Frint, Vera Peake, Gretta Frint, Miss Johnson teacher, May Anderson, Earl Kuhn, Milek Baxa. Front row: Cora Anderson, Glenn Gregorson, Emma Frint, Myrtle McNealy, Sunshine Ward, Martha Frint, Tulu Ward, Ernie Frint and Pearl Ward.



From this list the Van Nattas and the Frints have contributed to the building of District No. 2 as follows: N. T. Van Natta was a lawyer. He taught two terms of school in the log schoolhouse that is in 1873-1874. In the meantime a stone schoolhouse, in 1875, had been built high on a hill in the same district. This was ½ mile south and ½ mile east of the log structure. Honorable N. T. Van Natta taught three more terms of school there. He was succeeded by his daughter, Maggie, who taught four terms of school there. She became the wife of Senator Ward and later her son, Guy Ward, taught in the district. Thus three generations of the Van Natta family have been teachers in School District No. 2. This is not in Savage's History, but I can report that a son of N. T. Van Natta, Henry Van Natta, taught one term of school and a granddaughter, Mae Anderson, taught in the same school in 1916-1917. Henry Van Natta was later County Attorney for four years and Probate Judge for 37 years. N. T. Van Natta and Henry were also members of the school board at various times in District No. 2. They were usually chosen clerk; and in the Clerk's Records, N. T. would close his record of the annual meeting with, "Peace and Harmony Prevailed," then sign his name.



About 1912, Miss Irella Ferris had these 20 pupils enrolled: Back row: Ben Olson, Leona Jakabosky, Mae Anderson, Martha Frint, Ollie Jakabosky, Miss Ferris teacher, Cora Anderson and Ernie Frint. Middle row: Flora Salisbury, Celia Olson, Josephine Olson, Emma Frint, Thyra Cunningham, Gladys Frint, Mary Olsen, Maudie Frint. Front row: Alfred Cunningham, Lawrence Jakabosky, William Jakabosky, Floyd Frint and Lee Cunningham.

John Henry Frint was a member of the school board of the first school taught in Republic County, Kansas. All of his twelve children attended School No. 2. Thomas Frint and Ellis Frint were the second generation of board members. Ellis was treasurer of the school board for 18 years, Emma Frint Makalous was Clerk of the District from 1939-1942. Amos Frint, a brother of Emma and a son of Ellis, was voted in as director of the school board of District No. 2 in 1947 thus making three generations that served on the school board. Emma Frint taught in District No. 2 for the term which started in 1919. Her daughter, Mary Frances Makalous Snapp, taught there in 1943-44 and came back to teach the term of 1946-47.

There are very good records left to show what took place. The clerk's records are complete as are the

teachers' records, and we have Savage's History as an added record. Even the ballots are available when an election was held on the question of whether to build a new schoolhouse in 1902. There were 23 "yes" votes and 0 "no". The schoolhouse was built that summer with donated labor and the cost of materials was \$400.22. We do not know how long Sunday School was held here, but in this new school is a picture of 32 members. (Courtesy Anna Pollard)

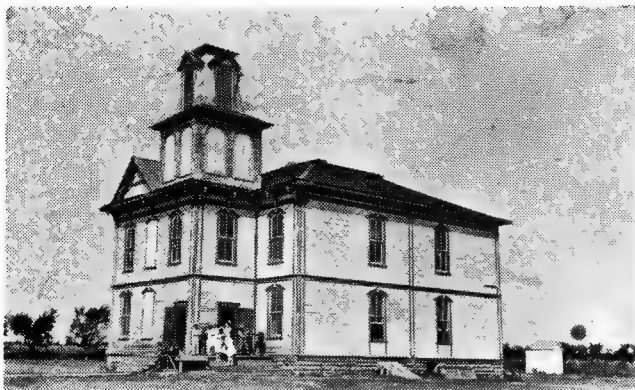


At the annual meeting, April 9, 1948, the patrons voted to consolidate with District No. 25, McCune, thus to keep up with the times that change everything.



### DISTRICT 3—WAYNE SCHOOL

District Number Three dates back to the year 1871 when school was held in a small log building located on the present site of the Union Cemetery which is a mile south of Wayne. Only a short term was held in this building as the Fairview School District 3 was built on what is now the Mrs. Josie Way farm adjoining the present town of Wayne



on the south.

During the life of the Fairview School, it was sometimes too small to accommodate the great number of pupils, so the Fairview Church was used for school. This building is still standing and is used for a barn on the Way farm.

## PROGRAMME

### NINETEENTH ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT OF REPUBLIC COUNTY SCHOOL AT WAYNE MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 6, 1910.

March	-	-	Orchestra
Invocation	-	-	Rev. Turrentine
"After Graduation--What?"	-	-	Adelaide McClure
"Home"	-	-	Bessie Way
"Books as Companions"	-	-	Gertrude Culver
Vocal Solo	-	-	Mrs. E. A. Campbell
"Our Future"	-	-	Earl Teagarden
"School Friendships"	-	-	Hattie Roszelle
"American Orators"	-	-	Flora McKenzie
Selection	-	-	Orchestra
"Old Glory"	-	-	Olive Englund
"Rowing--Not Drifting"	-	-	Ruby Lilly
"Concentration of Effort"	-	-	Nellie George
Selection	-	-	Wayne Quartette
"Idleness"	-	-	Maggie George
"Kindness"	-	-	Floyd Powell
Solo	-	-	John Riepen
"We Launch to Anchor--Where?"	-	-	Mable Hazen
"Knowledge"	-	-	Ethel Knowlton

Presentation of Diplomas.  
Benediction.

After the Burlington Railroad came through in 1884 the name of Fairview was changed to Wayne by the Company. The Fairview building is now a part of the Jim Cherney home. In 1885 school was begun in a new two-story frame building shown at the top of this page (without a door in the south) and the second picture was taken after the door was added. There were 128 pupils and two teachers. This was a "boom period" for Wayne and it had many thriving industries in the heart of good farmlands.

This picture is the upper grade room in 1912 when Miss Fannie Frost was the teacher of 28 pupils: front row, left to right: Victor Holmberg, Denzil Campbell, Bruce Campbell, Clarence Englund, Marshall Beecher, Bryan



Culver, Ernest Springsteen, James Shepherd, William Campbell, Guy Campbell and Roy Shepherd. Second row: Marie Day, Minnie Johnson, Ethel McCall, Iva Campbell, Amelia Batt, Louise Batt, Clare Bergstrom, Mary Anthony, Constance Lilly and Dorothy Bowersox. Back row: Edythe Hall, Thyra McClure, Hazel Campbell, Ruth Anthony, Wanda Campbell, Emma Batt and Ona Muxlau.



We have the freshman class of Wayne high school (Courtesy of Frank Spurney jr.) dated 1913-14 of which Miss Emma Adamson was the teacher. Standing in the back row: Elsie Smith, Bonnie Shepard McClure, Doris Ekstrom, Glen Campbell, Linn (Irish) McClure, Frank G. Spurney, Sanford Hazen, Duane McClure, Carl Ball, and the teacher Miss Adamson. Seated in the front row: Freda Campbell Abrahams, Katy Beecher, Gladys Culver, Golda Campbell Doupnik, and Clara Bell Jones.



Miss Anthony has kindly loaned most of the pictures for this history and we are indebted to her for much of the historical data. She was the teacher of the primary room



consisting of grades one to four, in 1919, in the old two-story structure. These are the children she has identified: Bill Lilly, Lloyd Nelson, Byron Walton, Lela Campbell, Eva Hoag, Velma Campbell, Leona Holmberg, Edna Nelson, Bess Tyree, Afton Campbell, Donald Englund, Emily McKenzie, Marsell McKenzie, Fred Tyree, Olaf Bergstrom, Harold Teagarden, Marcus Hood, Lynn Campbell, Carl Holmberg, Clarence Abraham and Woodrow Abraham.



1929 was a banner year for Wayne. Miss Mary Anthony graduated eight students that year from eighth grade. Back row: Alice Hood Smith, Wm. Krasny, Frank Norlund, Carroll Campbell. Front row: Willis Abraham, Letha Powell Krasny, "Miss Mary", Geneva Campbell Sabo and Virginia Cory Nesmith. (Picture courtesy Mary Krasny)



The Eighth Grade Class the following year (1930) was taught by Mrs. Cecil McCracken Lawson, wife of Oliver Lawson. Her pupils were: (standing) Theresa Fraser, Eileen Campbell Crabb, May Herrington. Front row: Lourine Kasl Krob, Franklin Abraham, and Grace Sheperd Chaput. (Picture courtesy Lourine Krob)

There were four rooms in the two story school and in 1909 a two year high school was added to serve the community for a little more than ten years when roads improved and students went to other four year schools.



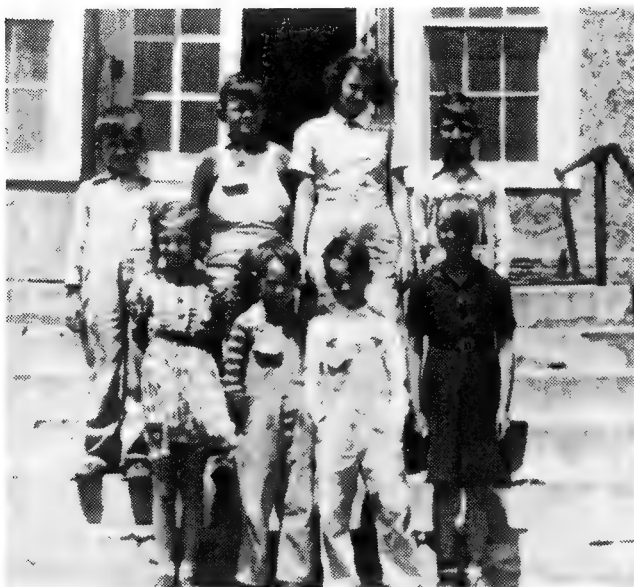
In 1930 the two-year high school basketball was coached by Oliver Lawson. Back row: Burton Walton, Ernest Baxa, Byron Walton, Mark Breckenridge?, and Willis Dean Abraham. Front row: Marcus Hood, Wm. Krasny, Clare Nelson?. The following year Franklin Abraham played with them. (Picture courtesy Mary Krasny).



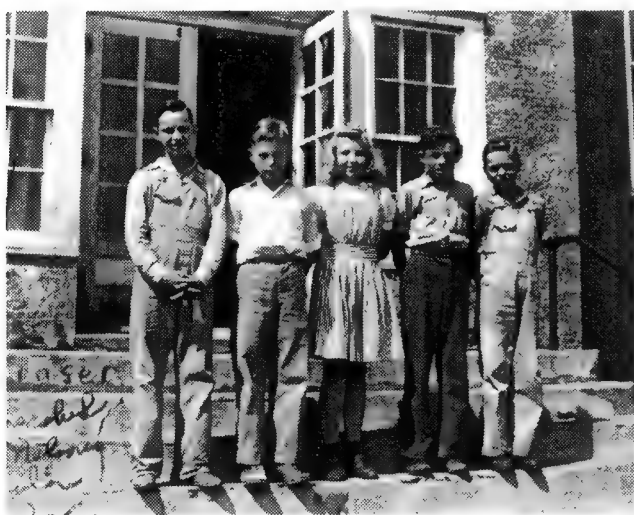
This stucco finished school was built in the north part of Wayne in 1922 with three rooms to also provide some high school courses a short time when George Saip taught here. When this picture was taken, the building was undergoing some repair.

This picture was taken in the term of 1925-26 while Miss Mary Anthony was teaching grades four to eight (Pictures courtesy of Miss Hannah Hansen.)





In 1938-39 Miss Hannah Hansen was teaching the first four grades at Wayne. In the front row are: Tommy Campbell, Elda Bergstrom. Back row: Donald Flood, Dale Krohn, Deloris Dulin and Billy Hood. We do not have the year for this next picture, but Miss Hansen was teaching these graduates who all made the honor roll! Paul Fraser, Leroy Benyschek, Mary Belle Nelson, Lavern Dulin and Delwin Holmberg, all five in the County Honor List.



Over the 94 years that this school was in operation, there have been 121 different teachers and well over 1,000 different pupils who attended Wayne. Due to progress and changing times, in 1965 FINIS has to be written to School District 3.

This picture shows the fire that destroyed the building on February 22, 1970 after it had served for 48 years. Five years had elapsed since school was held, but it served as a community meeting place and voting center for Grant Township. The grass had grown up around the building. While the cleanup was in progress, sparks from the grass fire were blown into the roof and could not be ex-



tinguished. Fire trucks for this rural area were not yet available in 1970.

Memories are all that are left of the school that flourished for a century and then vanished from the scene where it had been an integral part of the life in and around Wayne.



#### DISTRICT 4—HAWORTH SCHOOL

Since the earlier years there has been a misunderstanding in regard to the Cuba settlement schools, District 4 and Haworth. Back in 1867 District 4 area covered the Cuba settlement. The growth of the settlement and the first log cabin school was in District 4. Due to this growth of the settlement, the log cabin school was torn down and it was replaced with a larger frame building one quarter mile farther east. These two schools were the Cuba settlement schools in District 4 in the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 35 in Farmington Township. This school district covered an area of 9 miles by 15 miles. It was composed of an area of 135 square miles in size.

When Cuba moved to its second location in 1873 or 74 there was no school in the area. So as a result, the children

had to go back to the second school located where the first Cuba settlement had been. This was still District 4. They had to continue going there until a school was built near the second location. This school which was built later was Farmington 7, in about 1878. It was located about a half mile west of second Cuba. When the children quit going to the Cuba first settlement school, that school was no longer used. Then, this school was either sold, moved or torn down.

Later for the need of a school, Haworth School was built. It was built just a quarter mile south of the old Cuba settlement's second school's location. These schools were built very near the same location in the middle and east of the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 35 in Farmington Township. These all were in School District 4. But when this last school was built in 1878 it was given the name of Haworth. This school faced the south.

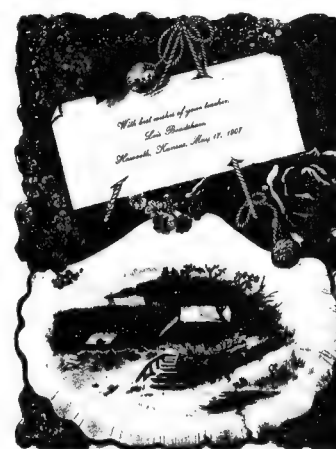
It is not known where or how this school got its name. In checking through history, we find no Haworth family in the close area where the school was built. The town of Haworth was not founded until some years later. It is known that the cemetery had earlier been called Haworth, then later changed to Mill Creek. Why? This is unknown.

H. H. Hoffman owned the land at the time where this school was to be built. He offered to give land on the west side of the cemetery for a road, if, they would build this school a quarter mile south of where the old second Cuba settlement school had stood, near the NE corner of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the section. This school had faced the north. His offer was accepted, so the school was built one quarter mile farther to the south. This was located just north a short distance from Mr. Hoffman's farm home. The school then had a public road approaching it from the north and from the east, from both of the main roads. These roads are still in use today.

The school district had not been changed. There also was a gap in time when no school building was on the land. When the new school was built, it was called Haworth 4. But we must not confuse, and it must be remembered, that there is no connection between the two earlier Cuba settlement schools 4 and Haworth 4. The Haworth 4 school was built after the Cuba settlement had moved from the area. So the reason for this confusion must be, because these schools were both built on land so close to each other and in the same school district. It also must be remembered that the Haworth 4 school was built here, new in 1878. Also, that the old Cuba schools had been taken off the land between 1874 and 1878.

There is no doubt that Haworth School 4 was built in 1878. But no records can be located until the term of 1920-21. This leaves a "black out gap" for 42 years. There are no records previous to this school term to be found.

Some pictures and old souvenirs will help to fill the gap where formal records have been lost. When Chalmers H. DeVore was the teacher in 1904-05 a pony must have been assisting with transportation. Those twenty pupils, whose names we have, can only be matched to the picture by the reader familiar with them: Vada Lacey, Emma DeVore, Elsie Arbuthnot, Claude Arbuthnot, Anna Mapes, Coris Baker, Lester Rhine, Earl DeVore, John Rhine, Ethel Tiff, Lawrence Tiff, Adolph Blecha, Agnes Mapes, Frances Huncovsky, Anna Huncovsky, Minnie Heid, Hubert Blecha, George Heid, Jennie Mapes and Alva Blecha. (Pictures and Souvenirs are courtesy of Anna Huncovsky)



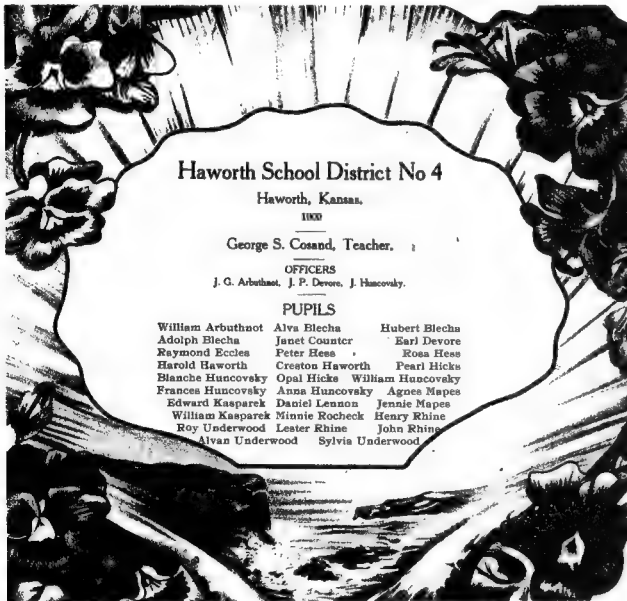
The picture of the farmstead in winter is overhung with gay forget-me-nots and pink roses in a greeting to the pupil Anna Huncovsky from her teacher Lois Bradshaw on May 17, 1907. In this picture beside the schoolhouse she holds the schoolbell in her hands. In addition to the names in the picture for 1904-05, there are: Minnie Rochek, Goldie Coy, Fenton Greenwood, Harry Greenwood, Calvin Lacey, Janet Counter, Ethel Diller, Anna Rochek, Vance Rhine, Claude Brooks, William Huncovsky, Ray Heid.



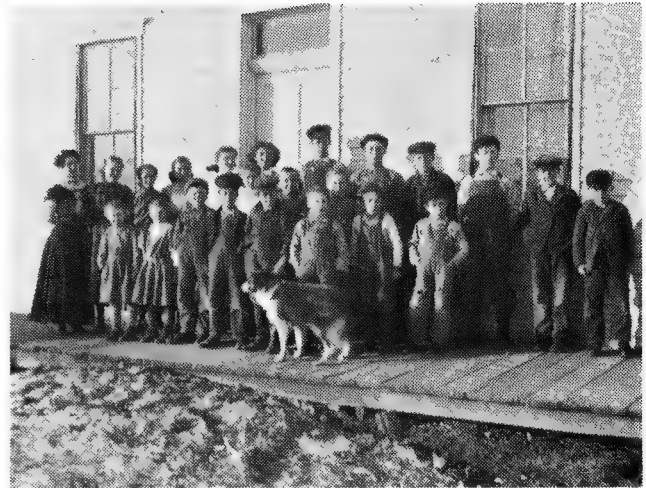
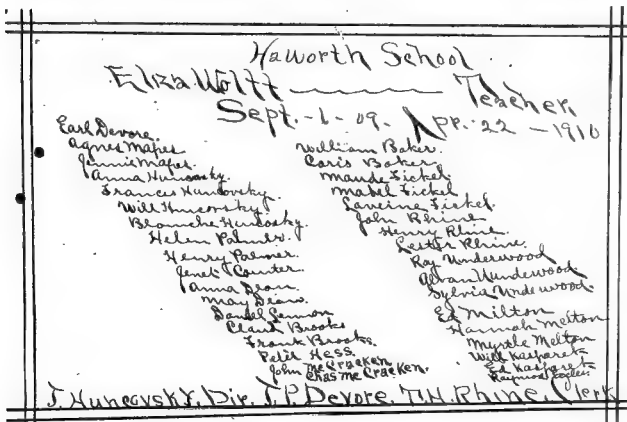




At the left is a picture of the school in 1908-09 when George S. Cosand was the teacher. The school board were: J. G. Arbuthnot, J. P. DeVore and J. Huncovsky. Some new families in this are Haworth, Kasperek, Hicks and Lennon. On the souvenir below are the listed pupils.



Mrs. Eliza Harroun lives in Belleville now and has shared this souvenir and picture which she presented to her pupils on April 22, 1910. There were 35 pupils on the souvenir, but only 22 were on the picture. Miss Eliza Wolff



listed them as: Earl Devore, Agnes Mapes, Jennie Mapes, Anna Huncovsky, Frances Huncovsky, Will Huncovsky, Blanche Huncovsky, Helen Palmer, Henry Palmer, Janet Counter, Anna Dean, May Dean, Daniel Leono, Claud Brooks, Frank Brooks, Peter Hess, John McCracken, Charles McCracken, William Baker, Coris Baker, Maude Fickel, Mabel Fickel, Laverne Fickel, John Rhine, Henry Rhine, Lester Rhine, Roy Underwood, Alvan Underwood, Sylvia Underwood, Ed Milton, Hannah Melton, Myrtle Melton, Will Kasperek, Ed Kasperek and Raymond Eccles.

Some pictures and old souvenirs will help to fill the gap where formal records have been lost. When Chalmer H. DeVore was the teacher is 1904-05 a pony must have been assisting with transportation. Those twenty pupils, whose names we have, can only be matched by the reader familiar with them: Vada Lacey, Emma DeVore, Elsie Arbuthnot, Claude Arbuthnot, Anna Mapes, Coris Baker, Lester Rhine, Earl DeVore, John Rhine, Ethel Tiff, Lawrence Tiff, Adolph Blecha, Agnes Mapes, Frances Huncovsky, Anna Huncovsky, Minnie Heid, Hubert Blecha, George Heid, Jennie Mapes and Alva Blecha. (Pictures and Souvenirs are courtesy of Anna Huncovsky)

Chalmer H. Devore was the teacher for the term starting on September 13, 1920 and ending on April 22, 1921. That year the pupils were: Frank Skupa, Blanche Pugh, Howard Dowell, Raymond Edwards, Wesley Huncovsky, Ernest Skupa, Benny Huncovsky, Helen McCarty, Bessie Skupa, Dorothy McKinney, Glenn Hanel, Leon Chizek, Silva Skupa, Helen Huncovsky, Elsie Huncovsky, Willie Hanel, Eddie Skupa, Edith Wadkins, Ethel Wadkins, Everett Harris, Donald McCracken.

Some records show that on November 6, 1922 the school treasurer received \$30.34 from proceeds from a box supper. Then again on April 3, 1924 they took in \$20.95 with another box supper. The next record of a money raising project was in the term of 1950-51. It was a carnival by District 4 and it netted the school \$45.33. Records show little other activity, except, some remodeling and repairs and a cloak room added within the building in 1944. Later electricity was put in about 1946 when REA came into the area. This school made a great community place for the people of the area to gather.

In 1922-23 term the visitors were, Evan Skupa, Haddam; Maude Leshovsky, Blanche Hanel, Laura Celoud, Frances J. Fickel, Belleville, October 17, 1922;

Blanche Pugh, October 20, 1922; Coda M. Pentico, Walker, Oregon, October 7, 1922; Afton Pentico, Agenda, October 7, 1922; Lester C. Pentico, Agenda, December 7, 1922; Frank Huncovsky, Agenda, February 10, 1923; Charles Huncovsky, Agenda, February 10, 1923.

Listing of board members, as to their terms, is hard to find. In 1895, they were Luther Dowell, John Devore and M. T. Haworth. For 1936-37 they were John Rhine, Vance Rhine and Howard Dowell. Most members served their one term, some the second term. Some that served longer were John Rhine and Frank Skupa. Howard Dowell served from July 1, 1929 until the school closed. This was at the end of the term in 1959. He then completed 30 consecutive years as a member of Haworth 4 school board and treasurer.

Alvera Kaufman taught 4 the term of 1941-42. She again took the school for the term of 1942-43. But by this second term she was married. So the pupils that year had Mrs. Alvera Reynolds as their teacher. The school officials that year were John Rhine, Frank Skupa and Howard Dowell. The pupils then were: Joan Skupa, Daisy Thompson, Eva Thompson, Harold Dowell, Jimmy Rhine, Richard Thompson.

The term of 1957-58 was a tragic one. It was first taught by Mrs. Donna Morey. The pupils of that term from September 4, 1957 ending on April 23, 1958 were: Kenny Freed, Lowell Goodson, Grace Dusin, Donald Freed, Ronnie Freed, Linda Dusin, Ronald Goodson, Bob Dusin. Their teacher at the start of the term was Mrs. Donna Morey. She taught until in December. At this time she met a tragic death. She was shot to death in her home. Mrs. Bohman Kunc was then hired to finish out the term. Visitors during that school term of 1957-58 were: Oct. 10, 1957, Mrs. John Freed, Narka, Kans.; Oct. 10, 1957, Mrs. Elijah Hicks, Cuba, Kans.; Oct. 10, 1957, Mrs. August Dusin, Cuba, Kans.; Oct. 10, 1957, Mrs. Jess Devore, Cuba, Kans.; Dec. 5, 1957, W. J. Mathias, Co. Supt., Belleville, Kans.; Jan. 6, 1958, Mrs. Jack Freed, Narka, Kans.; Jan. 6, 1958, Mrs. August Dusin, Haddam, Kans.; Jan. 6, 1958, Mrs. Howard Goodson, Narka, Kans.; Mar. 14, 1958, Mrs. August Dusin, Haddam, Kans.; Mar. 14, 1958, Mrs. Jess Devore, Cuba, Kans.

The teachers at Hawroth 4 starting with the term of 1920-21 and until the school closed were:

1920-21—Chalmer H. Devore	1938-39—No school
1921-22—Irma Harris	1939-41—Margie Burt
1922-23—Barbara Huncovsky	1941-42—Alvera Kaufman
1923-24—Florence Martin	1942-43—Alvera Reynolds
1924-25—Paul C. McCracken	1943-44—June Reynolds
1925-27—Cecile McCracken	1944-45—Alice Rhine
1927-29—Mirrian Selden	1945-46—Alice Benyshek
1929-30—Lenora Ekstrom	1946-50—Norma Fisher
1930-31—Elizabeth McCracken	1950-51—Wilda Anderson
1931-34—Flossie Martin	1951-52—Doris Burt
1934-36—Rachel Swan	1952-53—Mrs. Mabel Lallak
1936-37—Ardeth Drips	1953-57—Mrs. Donna Morey
1937-38—Lela Hudson	1957-59—Mrs. Bohman Kunc

There was no school during the 1938-39 school term at Haworth 4. The pupils of the school were too few, so no teacher was hired. Instead these pupils were sent to other schools. Norma Fisher went to Beebe. Alice Rhine went to Haddam. It is not certain where Richard Thompson went. Tuition and transportation was paid by School District 4, covering these children's transportation and education.

School at Haworth 4 was terminated after the close of the 1958-59 term. Mrs. Bohman Kunc was the last teacher.

Members of that last school board were Catharina Hicks, Elizabeth Devore and Howard Dowell.

The school building was later sold to Howard Dowell. He then sold the school building and they tore it down for the lumber. The lumber was taken to Haddam, Kansas and stored in a vacant building to be used later in construction. Then, later due to a bad fire it was all burned and destroyed.

Today, this area that once had three schools in an area of a quarter of a mile triangle, has gone back to the barren land it once was. It is said, that some of the rock of the old foundation of Haworth 4 can still be found there.

It is interesting to know that the boundaries of what is School District No. 4, was changed many times. The area first started for Cuba's first school. Even after March 30, 1871 there were a number of changes in District No. 4's boundaries. On August 27, 1887 the boundaries of School District 4 with alterations and detachments included as follows. In Farmington Township the W½ of section 26, all of 27, SE¼ section 28, all of 34, W½ of 35. Also, in Richland Township was the N½ section 3 and the NW¼ of section 1.

For a brief period of time this area was without a school. This was between the time that Cuba moved to its second site and before the Haworth No. 4 school was built. On January 14, 1888 it was decided to attach all of school district 117 (this district was established August 27, 1887) to District No. 4. This included in Farmington Township the E½ section 26, all of section 25, all of 36, E½ section 35. Then in Richland Township NE¼ section 2 and the N½ of section 1.

The records show that on February 10, 1888 the transfer of all of District 117 which was just east of District 4, was added to District 4. It also stated that on and of that date District 117 was discontinued. The District 117 in Lincoln Township, known as Lone Tree School, was established Dec. 17, 1887. So for a brief time there were two District 117 in Republic County.

After writing this Haworth school story, an old school day book of records comes to my attention. This book is badly damaged. All pages are torn out and separated with some badly torn. Not to mention the damage by nibbling of the rats or mice. I judge this book is of classes between 1904 and 1913.

Between these years I am able to pick out seven different teachers. They are not listed in the order of terms. Some taught more than one term. These teachers are as follows: C. H. Devore, Della E. Jones, G. S. Cosand, Eliza Wolff, Myrtle Lilly, Ara E. McCracken, Nola Resco.

We believe these pupils' names that follow are of the class of December 1904 ending in February 1905 term. The teacher that term was C. H. Devore.

Emma Devore	Agnes Mapes
Vady Lacy	Ethel Tiff
Emma Mapes	Anne Huncovsky
Claude Arbuthnot	Lawrence Tiff
Elsie Arbuthnot	Adolph Blecha
Coris Baker	Frances Huncovsky
Janet Counter	Hubert Blecha
Lester Rhine	Alva Blecha
Anna Mapes	Minnie Heid
Earl Devore	Jennie Mapes
Charley McCarty	George Heid
John Rhine	Calvin Lacy

There is no mention of who the school board members were during those years.



It is regretable, all the missing school day books, that are not at the courthouse. Also, all the damage done to these irreplaceable records, by people and rodents. These records and books, if at the courthouse, would be safer and protected there.

Researched and written by  
E. F. Stepanek  
June 19, 1967

#### ORIGINAL DISTRICT 5

Fortunately, on January 1, 1935, Frank H. Canary wrote down "this scrambled history. . .relying in part to recorded facts from different sources. . .from memory and from some things I can remember hearing old people mention in days gone bye". He states that the Supt. W. Lancaster issued a notice dated May 14th, 1869 for the purpose of organizing School Dist. No. 5 Republic County, Kansas. The following persons were duly elected ad qualified for District Board of District 5: Director John Manning, Clerk R. H. Vining, and Treasurer R. James.

It is interesting to note the boundaries of the first Dist No. 5 comprised all of Elk Creek Township and the south one-half of Richland Township. This was fifty-four square miles. The schoolhouse, which was built of logs, was situated on the John Manning farm in Sec. 22. W $\frac{1}{2}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$ . This is now owned by Edith Anderson.

Before long taxes were needed to operate school, so on Sept. 21, 1870 a special meeting was called for the purpose of levying a tax of one percent, for teacher's fund, one-fourth of one percent for incientals, and three-quarters of a percent for building fund. It was voted to have four months of school to be taught by a male teacher.

On the 11th day of October, 1870, \$125 in bonds were voted at a special meeting called by petition. This was for the repair of the schoolhouse. The bonds were made payable in five years.

At this same meeting textbooks were chosen for 1870: Wilson's Reader and Speller, Ray's Arithmetic, Mitchell's Geography, and Pinness Grammar.

#### DIVISION OF OLD DISTRICT 5 STONY POINT SCHOOL

On March 20, 1872, just three years after Original Dist. No. 5 by order of the County Superintendent, W. Lancaster, the old Dist. 5 boundaries were changed so that Stony Point, new Dist. 5 was organized by order of the Superintendent on June 11, 1873. The area was being settled rapidly and children had too far to go to school.

The first District Meeting was called on May 24, 1875 and the officers for Stony Point were: Director Jacob Moore, Clerk Wm. B. Jones, and Treasurer Henry Hepner. The first Stony Point Schoolhouse was built on the SE corner of Sec. 25 in Grant Township. The new district comprised Sec. 30, 31, SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 23, W $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 29 in Elk Creek Township and Sec. 25 and 36, E $\frac{1}{2}$  Sec. 26, E $\frac{1}{2}$  Sec. 35 in Grant Township.

On May 25th, 1880 a tornado from the southwest came about six o'clock in late afternoon and destroyed the schoolhouse. The next schoolhouse was built to the east of it across the road in the SW corner of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 30 in Elk Creek Township. This picture taken about 1901 when

Charley C. Sterba taught Stony Point shows that there was no belfry.



Reading from left to right on the front row are: Herbert Howard, Clara Nordquist, Selma Bowman, Viola Blunk, Laura Hall, Tot Bowman, Martin Powell, Arthur Bowman, Pearl Hall, Emma Erickson, Stella Blunk, and Viola Blunk. Back row: Alma Bowman, Charley Sterba, (teacher), Irma Bowersox, Lula Bowman, Albert Whitmire, Viola Fickel, Chester Bashford, Hilda Erickson, Grover Moore, Willie Blunk, Earl Howard, Herman Erickson, Floyd Blunk, Willie Anderson.



The picture when Alma Bowman taught in 1912 shows the belfry on the schoolhouse, the old fuel house is torn down, and a new one was built farther east. Reading from left to right, front row: Ora Ekstrom, Ruth Kramer, Minnie Johanson, George Nordquist, Charlie Vrana, Burt Lisher, Arthur Smith, Axel Johanson, Louis Nordquist, Ethel Ekstrom, Ella Smith, Claude Lisher, Gunnar Johanson, Viola Johanson. Back row: Henry Lisher, Elmer Erickson, Wendell Ekstrom, John Vrana, Lester Kramer, Alma Bowman (teacher), Arthur Bowman,

Stanley Lisher, Laura Erickson, Selma Bowman, Doris Ekstrom, Myrtle Bloomquist, Ralph Kramer.

From various sources, such as souvenirs of school, school directories, and report cards, this list of teachers has been compiled since the turn of the century:

C. C. Sterba—1900-01  
R. B. Hill—1902-03  
E. E. Zavodsky—1905-06  
Mary Stenger—1906-07  
Leota McNemar 1901-02  
Maude McNemar—1907-08  
Sarah Reeder—1908-09  
Della Jones part of the term  
Alma Bowman—1911-12  
Vera Dugger—1912-13



Miss Vera Dugger taught Stony Point 5 in 1913 and on her Souvenir are these names of students then: Stanley Lisher, Laura Erickson, Ora Ekstrom, Ralph Kramer, Bert Lisher, Ruth Kramer, Walter Boman, Elmer Erickson, Claude Lisher, Ethel Ekstrom, Louis Nordquist, Roy Nordquist, Bertha Byrd, Lester Kramer, Doris Ekstrom, Wendell Ekstrom, Henry Lisher, Harry Tucker, Arthur Smith, Charlie Vrana, Ella Smith, Vera McNemar, Mildred Byrd, George Nordquist, Glenn Erickson, Inez Byrd. The board members were: George Smith, clerk; Chas. McNemar, director; C. H. Lisher, treasurer.

Clarence McDonald—1913-14  
Ruby Lilly—1914-15  
Adelaide McClure  
Jennie Westbrook  
Agnes Hodgins  
Alma Hawkenberry  
Nellie Anderson—1916-17  
Freda Campbell 1917-18



In 1917-18 while Miss Freda Campbell was the teacher, her pupils were: Ernest Beneda, James Giebar, Rachel Giebar, Wesley Anderson, Orpha Kramer, Alice Nor-



dquist, Robert Woolard, Inez Byrd, Harold Kramer, LeRoy Nordquist, Glen Erickson, Louis Nordquist, Mildred Byrd, Ethel Ekstrom, Ella Smith, Bertha Byrd, Hazel Smith.

The board members were: John Moore, director; Ed Ekstrom, treasurer; and Joe Beneda, clerk.

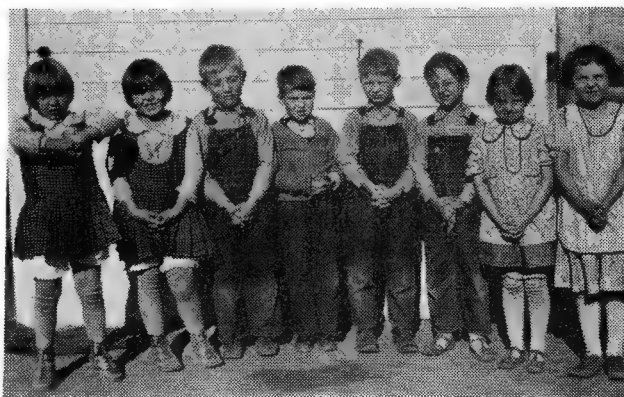
Mrs. Helen Beneda Makalous loaned this picture of about 1924 while Miss Lilly Canary was the teacher. The pupils are, back row: Freda Neuvian, Wesley Anderson, Miss Canary teacher, Alice Nordquist and Ernest Beneda. Front row: Helen Beneda, Wilberine Breckenridge, Florence Anderson and Frankie Beneda.

Doris Ekstrom—1919-20	Freda Neuvians—1931-33
Grace Ryman—1920-21	Marcella Blazek—1933-34
Beulah Hill—1921-22	Agnes Nordell—1934-35
Ora Ekstrom—1922-23	Doris Jones—1935-36
Mary Michelesky—1923-24	Esther Way—1936-37
Lillie Canary—1924-26	Dorothy Kelly —1937-42
Doris D. Smith—1926-27	(longest of any teacher)
Marian Seldon—1927-28	Ann Brennan—1942-43
Doris Smith—1928-30	(Closed for all time)
Emily Breckinridge—1930-31	



These were the pupils of the school year 1929-30 at Stony Point, Dist. 5 when Mrs. Doris Smith was the teacher, back row, left to right: Helen Beneda, Pauline Williams, Frankie Beneda, LaVerne Williams, Anver Bowman. Middle row: Olive Beneda, Dorothy Williams, Evelyn Smith, Lorene Williams, Keith Bowman. Front row: Alma Vrana, Maxine Williams, Marcele Kramer, and Maxine Kramer.

One of the most interesting classes began in the term of 1930-31. This is the first grade in which there are two



pairs of twins: left to right: Aileen Newman, Arlene Newman, Edwin McNemar, Edward Ekstrom, Howard Bowman, Loren Kramer, Lorene Kramer, Phyllis Urban.



After 71 years the school closed at Stony Point 5. The schoolhouse was sold to Frank and Juanita Benda and moved two miles west to their farm. They converted it into a garage and shop where it has served another 30 years.

#### DISTRICT 6—SCANDIA SCHOOL USD 426

We are indebted to the Scandia Journal, its editors, Cap Berger and Ruby Larson, as well as to various other contributors.

In 1870 a school was started for the younger children of Scandinavia. It was held in a log cabin on the Peterson property on north Washington street. The first teachers were Mrs. McPhearson and Laura Cameron. Then in 1872 the district was organized, so previous to that date school must have been maintained by popular subscription. The Colony House was changed from a place of refuge to a center of learning, now that the Indians had abandoned the valley and there was a company of soldiers camped on the hill where the Riverview Cemetery now is located.

The bunks in the Colony House were removed and converted into benches. The long dining table which ran the full length of the room was shoved along one wall and slab seats went along it. (For the benefit of the younger generation who may not know what a slab is: It is the first cut taken from a log which is being cut into lumber. Before a log is cut into lumber, it must first be squared. This is done by cutting off slabs. These slabs will be rounded on one side and flat on the other side. They will vary in thickness from two to six inches) In the slabs two holes were bored near each end. Sticks were pounded into these holes which thus become legs for a bench to support the children. All labor and materials were furnished for the Colony House School without the aid of a tax levy or the sale of a single bond!

There was no bell, so the teacher called the children from play by pounding on the window with her bare hands. A young miss by the name of Young taught the first school, a 3-month subscription school. She later married Walter Johnson, who at that time, carried mail between Junction City and Jewell City stopping at Scandia once a week.

Here is the list of the first pupils who attended school at the Colony House: Peter Strom, Olaf Strom, August

Rasmussen, Axel Ellingson, Charley Larson, John Mahan, Van Mahan, Hannah Mahan, George Garber, Ida Nordmark, Louise Wallin, Berntine Granstedt, Emma Garber, Anna Peterson, Melvina Hubbard, Maggie Hubbard and Lizzie McGuire. We are told that few "lickings" were administered, but discipline was enforced by a ruler being brought down smartly over the upturned palm.

It was in 1876 that the town which was first known as New Scandianavia became "Scandia". Also of interest to historians is the fact that the Colony House still stands. For a number of years Velda Sothers kept an antique shop there, but the building stands empty today.



In 1880 a native stone schoolhouse was erected on a hill in the northeast part of town. This impressive structure had four rooms - two on the first and two on the second floor, with a library in the "tower".

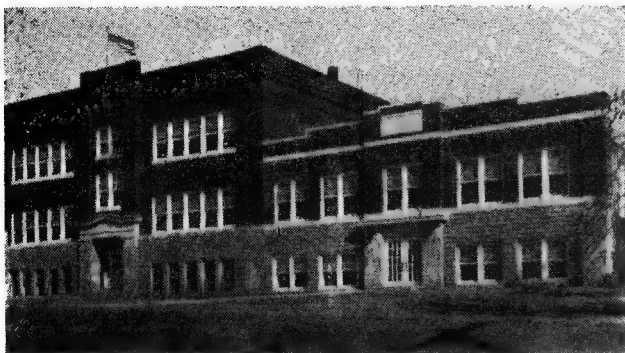
A brick building was built in 1914 where a high school and grade school were combined. Today it stands as the Grade School for Unified District 426.



This brick school was where the third Senior Class moved. There were less than 50 students in all and a faculty of only two constituted the school in 1914. Only two years previous to this the twelve-year system had been started.

By 1935 there was an enrollment of more than 100 and an increased curriculum. This picture shows the addition of a gymnasium, auditorium and vocational agriculture





space. The Vo-Ag addition was destroyed by fire in 1940, but was rebuilt immediately.



In 1963 the Scandia Rural High School was built  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile east of the grade school and became known as Unified District 426. Pupils are transported to and from school as well as to school activities away from school.

The four-year high school was moved from the 1935 grade and high school building the fall of 1964 and became known as Scandia Rural High School. The following year Scandia District unified with Courtland, Norway and Kackley districts and became Pike Valley Unified District 426.

The curriculum during the last few years has changed some but not drastically. The following courses are offered: four years of English, three years of Math (Consumer math, Algebra I and II, Geometry); 4 years of Home Economics for girls, 1 year for boys; 4 years of vocational agriculture; 4 years of science (biology, chemistry, physical science, zoology); 4 years of social science (American History, government, psychology and world history); business (typing I and II, accounting, business practice and shorthand); industrial arts (basic and advanced woodworking); industrial education has been added this year (small buildings, motors and some crafts); two years of physical education for girls and boys; 1 year of driver's education; and 4 years of band and vocal music are offered. The trend is helping all students toward a 4 year college, a 2 year college or a vocational school. Eighty percent of the graduating seniors go on to some school of higher learning.

Enrollment at Scandia High School has been around the 100 number, but has been decreasing the past few years - 88 are enrolled at this time.

Extra-curricular activities include many things. Scandia High School has done well in all sports. They were State 1A 8-man football champions for 1970-71-72. Volleyball has become a popular sport and is played in competition with other schools. Girls' and boys' basketball has become very active with many trophies to prove it. Girls and boys track records are many and they have medals to show how well they have done. Music festivals

are attended by all enrolled in music courses and they have received high recognition. Speech and drama include junior and senior one-act plays, prose and duet acting (to name a few) and have received applause and good ratings for their hard work and cooperative efforts. Y-teens and FFA organizations are very active. FFA Chapter attends and participates in many judging events and has had several Star Farmers in past years.

Local scholarships that have been started in the past are: Loyd and Bess Blosser, Norway, Kans.; Scandia State Bank, and The Harry Quantic Memorial Scholarship sponsored by the Scandia High School Alumni Association. (We are indebted to Bernice Thompson for much of the high school material.)

Pictures from Scandia High school in 1928 show a class of 32 with William (Bill) Matthias as sponsor and the other picture showing him as coach of the successful basketball teams of that decade.



It was not easy for those early football teams to practice on the field located along the railroad tracks in the west part of town where they were constantly waging a battle with weeds and Mexican sandburs. Most of them wore plow shoes on which a local shoeman fastened cleats.

In the early years all school activities were after 4 p.m. School plays were given in the old theater or City

Hall. Local citizens, including Dr. C. V. Haggman and Dr. E. Porter Ahrens, assisted with band practice. Ed Wires, the druggist, could be counted on to help out with the plays.

By 1944 things had changed so that an instructor directed the play, "Here Comes Charlie" presented by the Junior Class:



The teachers during the school term of 1943, 1944 at the Scandia School System included Mrs. Arlene Seeley in grades 1 and 2; Mrs. Celerse Wilson, Commerce; Miss Mary Bahl in grades 3 and 4; Marie Rizek Bonebrake, Vocational Homemaking; Miss Helen Nordell in grades 5 and 6; Miss Irma Pohlman in grades 7 and 8; Mrs. Bernice Murphy, English and History. The women are standing in front of the school building.



The Vocational Homemaking I class of 1944-45 of Scandia High School included the following Ila Mae Peters, Glenna Freed, Irene Weir, Marjorie Goodwin, Gloria Swanson, Carla Reese, Audrey Thompson, Evelyn Burnedt, Eloise Hammer, Glenna Hohlman, Marie Weir. Absent were Phyllis Greenslade and Norma Abby. Marie Rizek Bonebrake taught Vocational Homemaking at Scandia High School 1943-1945.

Scandia High School, District 426: the present teaching staff for 1975-76 is listed as follows: Superin-

THE JUNIOR CLASS OF SCANDIA

PRESENTS

# Here Comes Charlie

Three Act Comedy

School Auditorium

Tuesday, December 12

8:00 O'clock P. M.

Director, Mrs. C. A. Bonebrake

## CHARACTERS

(In Order of Appearance)

Nora Malone, Cook at the Elliot Home .....	Norma Abbey
Officer, Tim McGrill, Nora's Sweetheart .....	Max Thompson
Mrs. Fannie Farnham, Larry's Aunt by marriage.....	Norma Lervold
Larry Elliot, A Young Business Man .....	Ray Sederlin
Ted Hartley, His Old Time College Pal.....	Elmer Fullen
Vivian Smythe Kersey, Larry's Fiancee .....	Irma Haskins
Uncle Aleck Twiggs, In Charge of Charlie .....	Gay Freed
Charlie Hopps, Larry's Ward .....	Evelyne Rassmussen
Mrs. Caroline Smythe Kersey, Vivian's Mother, Barbara Housholder	
Mortimer Smythe Kersey, Vivian's Brother .....	Don Goodwin
Time—The Present	

Place Larry Elliot's Home in a Suburb of St. Louis, Missouri

## Synopsis of Acts

Act 1. Living Room of Larry Elliot's Suburb Home, about three o'clock of an afternoon, in late summer. During the act the curtain is lowered for a few moments to indicate the lapse of one hour.

Act 2. Same as in Act 1. Two weeks later at about 4:30 P. M.

Act 3. Same as in previous acts. Late afternoon, in June, Eleven months later.

Mrs. R. C. Murphy .....	Make-Up
Mrs. Katherine Vaugh .....	Specialties
Mr. Nels Florell .....	Ticket Sale
Mr. Harry Quantic .....	Superintendent
Iona Hammer, Lee Hammer .....	Stage and Properties
Max Thompson .....	Stage Assistant

tendent, Ernest Milton; Principle, Lyman D. Hansen; Mike Dunn, Industrial Education; Paula Harper, Girls Coach and Physical Education; Joe Palmer, head basketball and track coach, physical education, drivers education; Glen Walker, head football coach, psychology, history and government; James Olson, science; Elaine Karhut, home economics; Mark Russell, vocational agriculture; Opal Allday, library and mathematics; Jeanette Sommers, band and vocal music; May Robison Morrison, business education; Tamsen Whistler, English.

In 1892 the first graduates of Scandia High School completed only a two-year course. They were A. R. Morey, V. E. Carlson, Charles Caldwell and May Rear-don. Those to complete the course in 1894 were Atta Conner, Elda Trainor, Emma Asbjornson, Guy Rogers Loofborough, Maggie Louisa Bell and Charles Edward Hense.

Early teachers were C. C. Canfield, A. B. Kimball, Lina Gunter and Delia Smith. School board members were: C. C. Canfield, A. A. Kimball, H. S. Cooper and C. J. Weber.

Even among the early teachers, Scandia has a reputation for keeping good teachers for many years.



Synonymous with Scandia School are the names of Poage, Bliss, Robison and others of more recent years.

A clipping from Scandia Journal (1909) a Souvenir Number, states: "Miss Emma Poage who has charge of the Grammar Room is one of the best teachers in Republic County and has held her present position for

seven years and probably will continue to hold it as long as she desires.

"Miss Ella Bliss who has the Primary Room is a veteran teacher and needs no word of commendation aside from the fact that she has a record here of 15 consecutive years."



We have one of Miss Bliss's early classes (Courtesy of L. G. Nystrom) in which only a few can be identified. First row, third from left is a Nystrom boy, Dewayne Summers and Haywood Ostberg. In the second row seated are: Carl Peterson and Glenn Currie. In the third row Elvina

Edgren, skip two and there is a Goodwin girl, then Velma Hohr, skip one, Marcell Preble, skip two, another Preble, then a Larson, a Newcomb. In the fourth row: Hazel Swyhart, next Lyla Moller, skip three, a Goodwin girl, Dorothy Larson, Hazel Bettis and Ruth Peterson.



Lawrence Nystrom has shared another of Miss Ella Bliss's class pictures from about 1912 while Harry Olson was the Superintendent at Scandia.

In the first row: a boy, Pauline Mahaffey, a girl, Carl Peterson, skip four, Hattie Newcomb, a girl, Lucille Beck Benjamin, a boy, Carol Anderson, Merritt Garber, two boys, and Warren Grouter. Second row: Blanche Burns Nystrom, Delpha Larson Grimm, Merle Bettis Hazer, Jennie Lundine, Thora Albro Berggren, a girl, Florence Peterson, a Nondorf, a girl, Edith Peterson

Carter, Beula Lewellin Tedrow, Fred Currie, Paul Swanson, two boys, Douglas Gunter and Rose Newcomb. Third row: Boyd Hendrix, a boy, Earl Swyhart, Lawrence Nystrom, Clarence McCall, Everett Taylor, Wayne Plott, Clarence Hammer, John Tingstrom, Theodore Peterson, Ernest Gretchel, Elmer Crider, two boys, Clifford Brown, Helen Thompson, skip to last two, Eva Hohr and Ruth Hendrix. Mr. Olson and Miss Bliss are back of the last row.



Around 1912 while Miss Edith Anderson taught in the grades, Nystrom's also have this picture: First row, a girl, Dassa Davis Eastman, Jennie Warner, Lyla Loring Danielson, two girls, Georgine Preble, Lena Fogelberg Vandeveer, a Grandsted, a girl, Frances Malmstrom, Violet Nystrom Nelson, a boy, Harold Tingstrom and a boy. Second row: a boy, Lloyd Larson, three girls, Doris

Swanson Tebow, Mildred Nystrom Johnson, a Hawkins, Lawrence Nimrocks, Valen Hendrix, Irvin Currie, and Cameron Monson. Third row: a boy, Claud Tingstrom, Albert McCall, Royal Larson, Ralph Lewellyn, Clarence Larson, Emery Cryder, Andy Berggren, skip two boys, Arthur Garber, Flossie McCall Larson and Astrid Lundine.

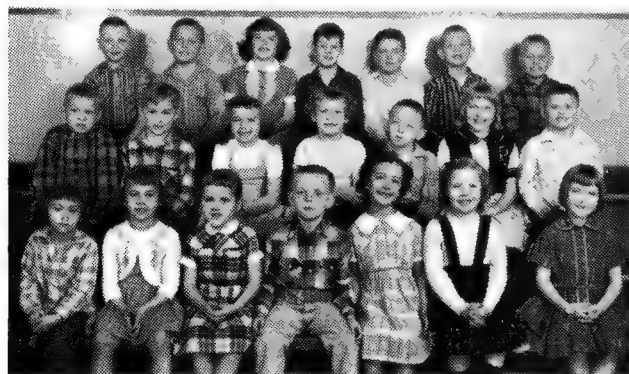


In 1928, Miss Emma Poage's upper grades posed for this picture. We do hope the reader will identify this group of still another generation.



Here in 1961-62 Miss Robison has a first and second grade class of 32 boys and girls.

Back row: Carla Kallman, Anne Perry, Bonnie Graham, Jim Melby, Dianne Larson, Jane Ann Aspegren, Peggy Hallgren, Sharon Runft, David Scrivner, Karen Cornett. Middle row: Miss Edna Robison, Thayne Larson, Alan Everhart, Rhonda Hall, Joan Isaacson, Larry Boman, Jim McDonald, Sheila Thompson, Randy Farrell, Mike White and Teresa Garst. Front row: Julie Tallent, Jane Ann Hobson, Dennis Garst, Lois Nondorf, Cindy Erickson, Becky Cady, Terry Gil, Mark Trauer, Judy Ann Hobson, Nancy Thompson, Rita Thomas and Mary Lou Reece.



The school term of 1958-59 Miss Edna Robison taught grades one and two. In the back row: Paul Kallman, Danny Sandell, Jackie Rockey, Jack Davis, Bill Davis, Gordon Berry and David Isaacson. Middle row: Richard Melby, Kenny Forsberg, Debbie Bennett, Beth Lervold, Lonny Ulmer, Rose Johnson, and Kenneth Garst. Bottom row: Patsy Ulmer, Sheryl Everhart, Carol Milner, Sammy Sanderson, Dianne Fogelberg, Paula Lewellyn, Saralyn Reece. Linda Anderson was absent.

Within the past ten years a science lab was equipped for the upper grades and a Science Fair in conjunction with the Spring Music Festival is an open house affair with good attendance. A separate grade school band program is organized rather than combined with high school band.

A Title I Summer Session of 3 to 6 weeks also was initiated and within the past few years a Tutorial Reading and Math Program has been organized to coincide with the regular school term. Scandia school belongs to the Special Education Cooperative Education Program offering help for students with learning disabilities.

Physical education for each class is offered as a regular class each day. In athletics, the boys' basketball teams have won the CRW League Championship three times, have gotten second place twice and third once. The Eighth Grade boys have won their division five times in track events, while overall, Scandia Grades have won the CRW League Championship two times in track. The girls

teams have not been so fortunate in track, but their volleyball team won the CRW League once as well as second and third place once each. The boys football team has never won the championship yet, but has placed second in the league three times.

The girls have placed second twice and third once in the basketball tournament.

#### FARMINGTON SCHOOL 7

A warranty deed was made out to School District 7 on March 7, 1877. (Note this is a school with a number of 7's) For a fraction of the SE¼ in section 32 of Farmington Township, for the sum of \$1.00. This is stated to be a two acre plot, more or less. This was deeded to the school district by Phillip Smith. He bought the land from Ira McIntyre who had homesteaded the land, settling there in 1872 and receiving his patent on Mary 20, 1877.

There is a record of a school meeting held in 1871, but there is no further information of this meeting. But on Oct. 22, 1872 there was another meeting. The following officers were elected, Ira McIntyre as director, J. G. Arbuthnot as clerk and John Harris, jr. as treasurer. Prior to this the boundary for this district was sections 31, 32 and 33, Township 2-S, Range 1-W in Farmington Township, with considerable land south in Richland Township. After this meeting in 1872 it was changed to a boundary including sections 33, 32 and 31 in Farmington Township and sections 4, 5, 6 and W½ of section 3 in Richland Township by 1901. These changes were made and signed by County Superintendent B. T. Bullen on Jan. 12, 1887, and again by B. T. Bullen on August 27, 1887 and by Lucy Howard on Mary 11, 1901. Picture is courtesy of Mrs. Bessie Fisher.



It is now known as a certainty how this school got its name, but it is assumed from the township in which it was located. Farmington Township was the first township in Republic County. It was established and named, consisting of what is now township 1, 2 and 3 of range 1 and east ½ of townships 1, 2 and 3 of range 2. This covers what is the east halves of Rose Creek, Fairview and Jefferson townships and all of what is now Albion, Farmington and Richland. This school was on the south line of Farmington Township in about the middle of section 32, after Farmington township had been divided.

Farmington School building was built in about 1878 and was the commonly built wood frame type. The exact date it was built is uncertain. In 1879 during one of the - areas worst storms on May 30 it was taken off its foundation and dropped about 30 feet to the east. Considerable damage was done to the building. It was replaced on its foundation and repaired. Soon it was back in use.

There are no records for this school until in 1902. The school that year had 31 pupils. It was an eight month term, from September 1902 to May 1, 1903. The teacher was Ida Bullen. The pupils that year were: Hazel Corwin, Addie Corwin, Frank Fox, Manly Fox, Nellie Fox, Ilah Fox, Anna Kalivoda, Willie Kennedy, Helen Kennedy, Mary Fitts, Bessie Lesovsky, Henry Lesovsky, Hazel Sissel, Lloyd Sissel Nona Teeter, Eddie Wiche, Anna Wiche, Irl Hicks, Thomas Hicks, Crecy Corwin, Clarence Sissel, Charlie Lesovsky, Myrtle McManis, George Lesovsky, Joe Lesovsky, Josie Goraka, Madie Lancaster, Gilbert Lancaster, Tiner Lancaster, Katherine Fitts, Rachel Fitts.

The visitors to the school during the 1911-12 term were: Helen Sissel, Cuba, Sept. 7, 1911; Pauline Ramsey, Cuba, Oct. 24, 1911; W. M. Slopansky, Belleville, Nov. 15, 1911; Joseph Barton, Belleville, Dec. 4, 1911; Olive Barton, Belleville, Dec. 4, 1911; Mary Stransky, Cuba, Dec. 20, 1911; Violet Rankin, Cuba, Mar. 25, 1912; Lawrence Rankin, Cuba, Mar. 25, 1912.

Members of the school board in 1895 were: J. M. Smith, G. A. Harris and W. J. Kennedy. It is difficult to get the names of the board members as to their terms. But some during the years were: Joe Wiche, Frank H. Lesovsky, Barbara Kalivoda, Charlie Lesovsky, George Sissel, Emanuel Lesovsky, Linn Rankin, Clarence Sissel, Ed Wiche, Raymond Harris. For the term of 1948-49 the board members were Wm. Kalivoda director, Ernest Fisher clerk and E. G. Kalivoda treasurer.

Between the years of 1923 thru 1932 the visitors to the school were above normal. I find no record of any special events for those years, nor does any one seem to know. Some say it possibly could have been because of the last day of school dinners. But I'm told no one ever signed up on that day. So we will wonder why these visitors in school terms, totaled as follows: 1923-24, total 15; 1924-25, total 21; 1925-26, no records; 1926-27, total 42; 1927-28, total 24; 1928-29, total 27; 1929-30, total 39; 1930-31, total 4; 1931-32, no records; 1932-33, total 17.

Over this period of time this made a total of 189 visitors.

Teachers for the terms of 1902-3 thru 1938-39, (there are no records prior to these dates) are as follows:

1902-03—Ida Bullen  
1903-04—Lula Phelps  
1904-05—Bertha May McDonald  
1905-06 Albert Hoffman



1906-07—Albert Hoffman  
 1907-08—Reta Edson  
 1908-09—Bertha Wagner  
 1909-10—Bertha Wagner  
 1910-11—Jennie Kelley  
 1911-12—Viola Ramsey  
 1912-13—Mary G. Fitts  
 1913-14—Helen E. Saip  
 1914-15—Helen E. Saip  
 1915-17—Dora E. Engle  
 1917-19—Stella Havel  
 1919-20—Margaret Woodhouse  
 1920-21—Nettie Sterba  
 1921-23—Margaret Benyshek  
 1923-25—Cecile McCracken  
 1925-26—Harry L. Trussell  
 1926-28—Bessie M. Barnett  
 1928-29—Leona Blazek  
 1929-30—Ruby Sorick  
 1930-31—Irma Harris  
 1931-32—Mary F. Ralston  
 1934-34—Ranchel Swan  
 1934-36—Geneva Wiruth  
 1936-38—Dolores Ettleman  
 1938-39—Viola Baxa.

We have found other names of teachers that taught at Farmington 7 that could be of those missing years or possibly they taught before 1902. These teachers are: Jennie Kelley, Ruth Kenney, Mary Hostinsky, Bertha Wagoner, Maude Sager, Collie Douke

This 1905-06 term picture is the courtesy of the late Mrs. Elva Wiche.

We have found old day book records when Albert Hoffman taught school at Farmington the term of 1905-06. His records list 39 pupils. This picture shows 23 pupils which makes 7 pupils not there for the picture and 9 others we cannot identify.

Standing left to right, by heads are 1, Tiner Lancaster; 2, Charles Lesovsky; 6, Charles McCarty; 7, Henry Lesovsky; 8, Mary Kalivoda; 9, Albert Hoffman, teacher; 10, Madie Lancaster; 12, Anna Kalivoda, and 13, Anna Wiche.

Seated in front row are: 1, Gilbert Lancaster; 4,

Edward Wiche; 5, Lloyd Sissell; 8, Rachel Fitts; 9, Kathleen Fitts and 11, Evelyn Sissell.

The names of pupils not identified on the picture or were not present in this term are: Violet Rankin, Eddie Strumfa, Charles Week, Mary Sterba, Mary Navratil, Joseph Heyduk, John Sterba, John Navraitil, Merle Teeter, Alexander Heyduk, Sylvia Underwood, Royal Underwood, Noma Teeter, Grace Underwood, Mary Fitts, Blanche McCarty.

School was discontinued at Farmington School 7 at the end of the 1938-39 term. The last teacher was Viola Baxa. The pupils of this last term were, Eugene Wiche and Vernon Lesovsky.

The school building was sold in 1946 to Raymond Bruns. He moved it to his farm a half mile west and two miles north. The building was placed near his barn. Lightning during a storm struck the barn, setting it on fire. It was soon out of control and spread to the old schoolhouse. It also burned to the ground. This was the end of Farmington School 7.

The district 7 was disorganized on Feb. 7, 1950. The order was signed by Thressa Kelly, County Superintendent of schools. This then went to School District 111 in Cuba. The land then was deeded from School District 111 to Farmington Cemetery 6. It was stated in the deed as a fraction of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 32, 2 acres more or less.

Researched and written by,  
 E. P. Stephanek

Pictures and program are by courtesy of Mrs. Marie Rizek Bonebrake of Manhattan.

#### DISTRICT 8—BECK SCHOOL

The Beck School District 8 was organized at a meeting on January 20, 1872. The board members were Charles Blanchard, director; James Wollcot, clerk; G. C. Beals, treasurer. A schoolhouse was built in the northwest corner of Sec. 8. The site for the school was given by Mr. Novak. The building was about 16' by 20'. The first teacher mentioned was Ida Grain in 1880. Later teachers were: Clara Woodside, Nettie Cannon, Charles Bixler, Charles Yates, Blanche Roush, Josephine Jehlik, Bessie Houdek, M. Merphy, Charline Rundus, Della Alexander, Flora Eichenberger, Jessie Deal, Stella Rizek and Thressa



Thompson Kelly.

One old-timer recalls a first teacher about 1890 by the name of Clara Woodside. There were about 30 pupils, all grades, several grown boys among whom were Jim Novak, Joe Severa, Frank Park and Ralph Beck. About this time a new schoolhouse was built. Board members were Charles Park, Wesley Rundus and H. E. Beck in 1895.

The next teacher was Nettie Cannon, a minister's daughter, and a sweet sincere girl. Here the school experienced its first trouble when some of the "big boys" started to make trouble for the teacher, and she was determined to maintain order. One member of the school board thought the teacher should be fired, (it was his boy that was the chief trouble-maker.) But W. Rundus, also a member of the board, took the teacher's part, and peace prevailed again.

There were many teacher, good, medium, and not so good - such as Mr. Charles Bixler, a good one, about 1896-97, who was remembered for his sleepiness, also for "keeping order". When two of his smaller boys got to giggling too loud, he made them sit on the floor with their feet toward the wall. He then sat in his chair at the teacher's desk with his feet on the desk and rested.

Another was Charlie Yates about 1897-98 who liked best to sit in the back seat with the oldest girl in school helping her with her history or arithmetic.

Then there was the teacher, Blanch Rouse (1898-99), too easygoing, who would let the pupils climb into the school attic, walk on the ceiling beams, or entertain themselves by singing Bohemian songs accompanied by a Bohemian accordian.

Then came Josephine Jehlik to straighten things out. She held and wielded the teacher's scepter for three terms, with 20 to 30 pupils, at \$35.00 per month. There were good school programs during those days. When her last day of school came, the parting song was:

Friends and teachers we leave thee

Fast the moments fly

Now has come the hour of parting,

We must say "Good-By"!

Chorus:

Good-bye, good-bye, God bless you all,

Good-bye, good-bye, God bless you all,

Until we meet - we meet again

'Mid tears and pleasures, joy or pain,

God bless you all.

One of the smaller boys that day cried all the way home - an example of the emotional level of the school that day.

Another outstanding teacher was Bessie Houdek. She also put on some of the best programs the community ever enjoyed. Then came Matinka Murphy, Caroline Rundus, Della Alexander, Flora Eichenberger, Jessie Deal, Stella Rizek and Thressa Thompson Kelly which takes us to about 1910. Through those years the number of students ranged from the twenties up to forty-two.

It would be impossible to give to the readers all of the souvenirs through the years, but occasionally, we include one for "old times sake". In 1910 when Thressa Thompson Kelly taught Beck School the board members were B. E. Edwards, clerk; Wesley Drashner, director; and Joseph Severa, treasurer. These were the 27 pupils: Joe Boukal, Annie Boukal, Rudolph Boukal, Charles Drashner, Blanche Drashner, George Drashner, Alva Drashner, Henry Drashner, Earl Hanel, Rosy Horak, Della Horak, Elmer Horak, Allie Edwards, Willie Edwards, Edd

Edwards, Pearl Edwards, Jessie Edwards, Grace Edwards, Mabel Ingham, Josie Kosek, Annie Kosek, Lillian Petwick, Mamie Petwick, Millie Rundus, Blanche Severa, Julius Sterba, Pauline Kosek.

On Miss Thompson's souvenir was a small picture taken from this photo loaned to us by her daughter, Mrs. Faye Novak. Her favorite quote was "Not for school but for life we learn."



The atmosphere of the school through all those years was not irreligious. Besides singing school songs with a moral point, like "Merrily, merrily work with a will" the school day was always opened with a prayer. If a member of the school board happened to visit the school, he was never let off without being requested to lead in a prayer. Mr. Beck and Mr. Park were well remembered for such inspiration to the pupils. The evening entertainments, the box supper programs ranged from all-school songs to tender touching solos and duets to Bohemian drama - precious memories that linger still in the minds of many pupils and patrons of Beck School.

Time and change took their toll at this school so that it was necessary to consolidate with Whitelock School (2 miles north) in 1952. School was held in the Whitelock School, but the name was Beck, Dist. 8.

In this next picture after Beck had joined Whitelock there appears to be an upsurge in the economy, seven bicycles! The children from left to right: Judy Smith, Debby Trzicky, Colleen Trzicky, Franklin Ryttych, Gerald Moore, Sylvia Moore, Linda Dusek. Front row: Verlee Blecha, Shirley Moore, Lynn Blecha, and Sharon Moore.





This was one of the last years of school when Mrs. Mulch was the teacher and the two granddaughters, Debby and Colleen Trzicky were there.

At a special meeting on April 1, 1963 it was voted to disorganize and annex Beck School to Munden, Dist. 20. The vote was 18 for and one against this proposition. It was also voted that Beck would not pay on any present bonded indebtedness Munden might already have. The board members were: clerk, Joyce Blecha; treasurer, Dean Moore; director, Frank Rizek. County Supt., Matthias declared Beck disorganized and its territory annexed to 20 Munden on April 8, 1963.

#### DISTRICT 9—CENTRAL SCHOOL

District No. 9 was located one mile west of Rydal in Scandia township. It was named Central because it was about half way between Scandia and Belleville. It was organized March 28, 1872. The first school board was T. A. Cooper, W. H. Stensen, and Jacob Lake. The school had what was known as a "split term". It would begin late in the fall after much of the farmwork was completed and close early in the spring so the "older boys" could help with the farmwork. Sometimes there would be a 3 month term in the summer.

The first schoolhouse, from the best information available at this time, was a frame rectangular building with three windows on each side and a door in the south end. Later a cloak room was added to the south with a door in each side and a window in the south. An uncovered wooden plant porch was on each side, a belfry and a large bell were added at this time, also. A bench was along the south side under the window. Dinner pails, containing the pupil's lunch, which they had brought from home, were placed on the bench. Hooks for wraps were over the dinner pails. The overshoes were under the bench. A waterpail with one long handled dipper, quenched our thirst and there was a washpan and one towel for use of the most "fastidious". The water pail was later replaced with a beautiful painted container with a spigot so we need not dip into the water. This, too, was replaced with a crockery

container with a lid and each pupil had his own cup. Mine happened to be a folding cup which took up less room in my desk. I still have my cup.

Oil lamps with reflectors, hung on each wall, which the teacher would light on very dark days. When we had evening entertainments the teacher would borrow some extra lamps for the occasion. The old pot bellied stove, in the center of the room, was often ringed with wet mittens and overshoes.



Eighty five years ago (1891) Miss Lydia Taylor taught 40 pupils at Central School. Many of their faces could be identified, but our readers must forgive the omissions where memory has been erased. First row: On the teacher's right is May Sanford, then Miss Taylor, and holding the slate is Nellie Kallman. Second row: Charlie McGowan, Cora Jones, Nanie Kallman, Albert or Mike Kallman, Alfred Kallman, Ed Kallman, Third row: Ida Kallman, skip 4 unidentified, Hank Johnson, Bill Johnson, Elfie Turnipseed, Jennie Sanford, Otis Turnipseed, Back row: (Skip the first two), Maggie McGowan, Hugh McGowan, (last three unidentified).

Almost everyone owned a slate and slate pencil. We certainly felt bad if we chanced to break our slate pencil and had to write with a stub of the long pencil.

There was an iron link chain on the west and south side of the school yard with a turn-stile gate for entrance on the south.

One of our favorite past times at noon and recess was swinging on the cabin and riding on the turn-stile for a merry-go-round. Some of the games we enjoyed included black man, fox and geese, steal sticks, hide and go seek, drop the handkerchief, last couple out, dare base, work up baseball, ring-around-the-rose, and the girls sometimes made playhouses of cornstalks, sticks, string, and hay raked from the school yard. We were "rich" if we were fortunate enough to bring a gunny sack from home for our door. Our dishes were bits of broken china and glassware and a real find was a bit with a flower or leaf painted on it.

At one time there were as many as sixty pupils attending and we were obliged to sit three in a seat. I remember as I was always obliged to sit in the middle.

If we were real good we were sometimes granted the privilege of taking the black board erasers outside and pounding them on the schoolhouse to get the chalk dust out of them. Needless to say we always returned inside with a generous layer of chalk dust on our clothing, our person, and our hair.



About 1896 this picture was taken of Central School. Back row, left to right: The teacher, Lola Singer, Grace Mosher, Jim Mosher. Second row from left to right: Dolly Mosher, Nellie Kallman, May Sanford and Una Waite. Third row, left to right: A Singer girl, Maud Tweedy, Annie McGowan, Alfa Mosher, Warren Waite and Grover Turnipseed. Front row: Ivy Singer, Lea Mosher, Mamie Singer, Monnie Waite, Clara Kallman, John Nichols and Ora Nichols. (Courtesy of Clara Olson, Scandia)

The coal and cob house was a separate building and fuel must be brought in at night to be ready to start the fire the next morning. Water was obtained from a cistern at the rear of the schoolhouse. There was no indoor plumbing. The two outbuildings stood on either side of the school at the north end of the school yard.

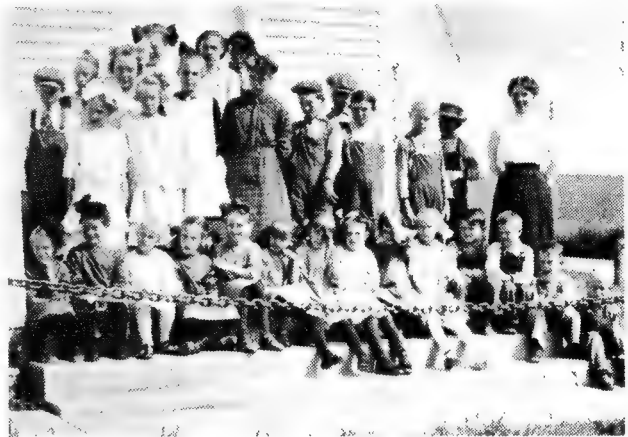
Literaries, Sunday School, programs, and Christmas trees, home talent plays and box suppers were some of the community activities enjoyed at the school house. One box supper when a certain box was opened a live rooster flew out. Another time it was a live rabbit. (What a scramble ensued!)



About 1911 Lillian Bailey taught this school of 23 pupils: We hope you can follow the numerals by each one: 1, Lillian Bailey, teacher; 2, Malcolm Waite; 3, Birdie Mosher Berggren; 4, Corda Cornett Doctor Duncan; 5, Ball girl; 6, Geneva Johnson West; 7, Ellen Johnson Isaacson; 8, Raynor Cornett; 9, Howard Holcomb; 10, Iona Waite; 11, Gladys Nylund Hatfield; 12, Worden

Waite; 13, Charles Beymer; 14, Pauline Nylund Swiercinsky; 15, Milo Johnson; 16, Orpha Cooper; 17, Cooper boy; 18, Cooper girl; 19, Walter Johnson; 20, Ross Johnson; 21, Lois Johnson Householder; 22, Cooper boy; 23, Clarence Collins; 24, George Mikesell

The money "raised" from the sale of boxes, voting on the most popular girl, the laziest man, the guy with the biggest feet, etc. was used to buy extras for the school such as books for the library, a new dictionary, an organ or piano, victrola and records, curtains, playground equipment, etc.



In 1916 when Miss Johannah Hurley Sheridan was the teacher at 9 in this picture of 29 pupils which was the situation previous to the erection of the new building. First row: Doris Doctor, Jeanie Doctor, Naomi Nylund, Elsie Mitchell, Thelma Kallman, Alice Kallman, Beulah Bareett, Ruby Johnson, Helen Beymer, Alice Nylund, Herbert Mikesell, Warren Johnson, Joyce Johnson and Dallas Nylund. Second row: Merle Barrett, Pauline Nylund, Lois Johnson, Iona Wait, Gilbert Mitchell, Worden Wait, George Mikesell, Alex Mylund, Walter Johnson and the teacher Johannah Hurley Sheridan. Top row: Ross Johnson, Gladys Nylund, Lula Kallman, Beulah Kallman, Ethel Goodwin and Claude Barrett. (Picture courtesy of Mrs. Lois Johnson Housholder)

A new building of wood and brick, with basement, furnace, and lights was erected in 1919 without voting bonds and was considered the finest rural school building, in Republic County, at that time. The cost of the new building was approximately \$5,500. The old building was sold and was moved about a mile south where it was converted into a residence.

Zellah Mosher Berggren was the last teacher to teach in the old building and Ellen Rosenquist was the first to teach in the new building.

In a short time the school met all the state requirements and was awarded a plaque as a Standard School. Not being satisfied with this accomplishment, the school and community started working for a higher rating and on March 11, 1921 the school again received an honor by meeting the requirements and became the second school in the county with Superior rating. Sadie Robison was teacher at this time.

District No. 35 known as Summit Point consolidated with District 9 in 1951 and the district was known as Con. No. 230. In 1957 District 112, Red Top and District 84 Poplar Grove consolidated with Con. No. 230, making a

consolidation of four schools at Central No. 9, now Con. 230.

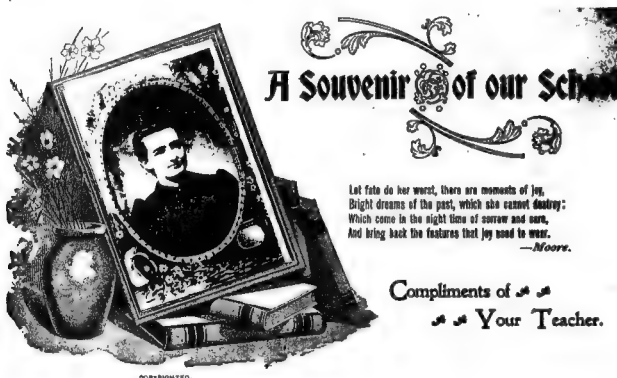
School was disbanded at Con. 230 in 1963. The last teacher was Wilma Dove. The school building was razed in 1975.

The large trees on the school ground, which J. A. Mosher had planted from his nursery at Rydal, have also been removed, and the site is almost ready to become farm land. Only memories remain.

Zellah Mosher Berggren  
Republic, Kansas



This is the modern school, a fine rural building to be seen on the north side of Highway 36 in the southwest corner of Sec. 1 in Scandia Township, about five miles west of Belleville.



On the school souvenir dated 1896-97 is the picture of the teacher, Miss Susie Riddlesberger. The School Board members were: G. F. Sanford, treasurer; S. B. Turnipseed, director; J. A. Mosher, clerk. Miss Lucy Howard was Co. Supt. There were 32 pupils: Anna McGowan, Myrtle Beecher, Grace Mosher, Nellie Kallman, Mary Chapman, Warren Waite, Maude Tweedy, Mamie Singer, Alfa Mosher, Ora Nichol, Eunice Waite, Willie McGowan, Bonnie Beecher, Mabel Sanford, John Nichol, Maude Beecher, Nellie Jones, Lena Chapman, James Mosher, Clara Kallman, May Sanford, Grover Turnipseed, Dolly Mosher, Albert Doctor, Monnie Waite, Alfred Kallman, Grace Singer, Edward Kallman, Allelee Mosher, Mabel Beecher, Lola Singer, Nannie Kallman.

In 1923 when Miss Pauline Nylund was teacher at Central this picture shows 23 pupils: Back row, left to



right: Warren Johnson, Olive Kallman, Alice Kallman, the teacher Miss Pauline Nylund, Joyce Johnson, Loren Whipps, Don McGowan. Second row from the back, left to right: Loyd Ball, Park Applegarth, Lawrence Johnson, Ruby Hammond, Gladys Applegarth, Mary Kallman. Third row from the back, left to right: Esther Applegarth, Velma Hammond, Catherine McGowan, Marcile Thomas, Leon Whipps. Front row, left to right: Donald Thomas, Leo Thomas, John Nylund, Kenneth Nylund, Van Hammond, and Virgil Ball.

Some of the early teachers included: May Jones, Suzie Riddlesbarger, Clara Duskin, D. L. Duskin, Stella Booze, Della Booze, Hattie Murphey, 1901; Birdie Berry, 1904; Roscoe Branson, 1905; Frances Loofburrow, 1906; Lillian Bailey, 1911; Alex Johnson, Cora Simpson.

Salaries ranged for this time for \$45.00 to \$52.50. Later teachers included: Johannah Hurley, Lillie Johnson, Lula Williams, Zellah Mosher, Ellen Rosenquist, Wayne Smith, Luman Chapman, Irene Swanson, Garnett Davidson, Oral Davidson, May Robison, Clarence Leggitt, Sadie Robison, Diana Carpenter, Pauline Nylund, Evelyn Schafer, Iva Bently, Betty Jo Cox, Velda McCullough, Jack Haskins, Sibyl Harper, Wilma Dove, Eunice Lundblade, Loren Whipps, Ann Filingier, Emma Powers, Mruel Tallent, Laverne Currie, Betty Larson, Mary Kieffer, Ardna Smith, Ruth Clark.

The first record of eighth grade graduates was in 1912 and were Viva Waite and Zellah Mosher.

The largest graduation class was in 1916 and included: Claude Barrett, Beulah Kallman, Lois Johnson, Lula Kallman, Ross Johnson, Iona Waite, Worden Waite.

All eleven of the children of J. A. and Helen V. Mosher attended District No. 9. Mr. Mosher served as Clerk of the District for many years. A daughter of the Moshers, Zellah Mosher Berggren, and a grandson, Loren Whipps taught in the District.

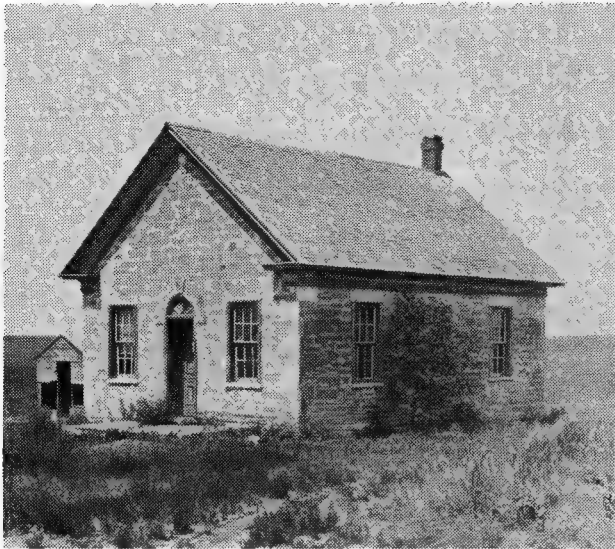
All six of the children of Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Waite were in the school at one time. All six children of the W.A. Johnson family attended here and graduated from No. 9.

#### DISTRICT 10—CRESCENT SCHOOL

This rural school of the past, Dist. 10, the Stone School built before 1884, played an important role in forming contributions to our heritage. (Picture courtesy of Blanche Waltz dated about 1906).

The first meeting was held at the home of William Flint (Not legible) on the 25th day of November, 1870. The officers duly chosen were A. H. Spencer, Gilbert Johnson,





and Casey Mapes. They decided to locate the schoolhouse in the SE corner of the SW¼ of Sec. 14 in Farmington Township. W. Mapes and wife gave a warranty deed for one acre on Mar. 27, 1880. This spot is six miles south and 1½ miles east of Narka.

In 1894-95, Mary E. Flawgler of Cuba taught Crescent for three months for \$30 per month with the understanding that she be privileged to teach nine months. The board members were F. L. Houdek, Peter McKenna, and J. A. Rhine, who were instructed to take pupils from outside the district at .50 a month if a school was not crowded. In 1895-96 Milton Pilkenton graduated from eighth grade. Kate McKenna was the teacher and Board members were George Mapes, J. A. Rhine, and F. L. Houdek. As of Oct. 1, 1895 we note the expenses; nails .05; door screws and casing .30; paint for door .45; 9 window glass, 9 by 4" .85; putty .10; hooks and hinges .45; lime .50; door \$3.90.

## School District No. 10.

Republic County, Kansas.

School began Sept. 5, '98, closes June 17, '99.

Our Motto: "Onward and upward is our aim."  
Pupils Enrolled.

Iva Rhine.	James Mapes.	Richard Houdek.	Charley Marsicek.
Orin Rhine.	Cora Mapes.	Stanley Houdek.	Henry Marsicek.
Ethel Rhine.	Mattie Phillips.	Henry Houdek.	Jennie Pilkenton.
Elton Rhine.	Emma Phillips.	Blanch Houdek.	Maggie McKenna.
Adolph Kasha.	Rosa Phillips.	Rudolph Strumfa.	John Peleska.
Ann Kasha.	Cora Phillips.	Lois Strumfa.	Charley Peleska.
Joseph Kasha.	Mabel Phillips.	Elva Skipton.	Sophia Peleska.
Henry Kasha.	Amalie Marsicek.	Lois Skipton.	Elsie Brockham.
Lila Kasha.	Adolph Marsicek.	Joseph Oliver.	William Brockham.
Anthony Strumfa.	Fanny Marsicek.	William Oliver.	Edna Morton.
Philip Strumfa.	Agnes Marsicek.	Martha Oliver.	Mary Oliver.
Abbie Scott.	Jodie Pavlik.	Rosa Kasha.	Bessie Pavlik.

### BOARD OF EDUCATION.

F. L. HOUDEK, GEO. C. OLIVER, ANTHONY MARSICEK.  
COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT, LUCY HOWARD.  
MARION DUFF, TEACHER

Here we have a momento of 1898-99 with 48 pupils enrolled from Sept. 5 to June 17. Marion Duff was the teacher.

On March 22, 1897, the school board met at the home of Amos Reed at 12 noon and agreed to have a spring term of two months, commencing April 12th. It was also agreed that the clerk of the Board, Amos Reed, should proceed to hire the teacher - the wages not to exceed \$25 per month -

under a second grade certificate. Miss Rosa Haworth (referred) adjourned. Sani Dee.

This picture taken in 1904-05 is courtesy of Blanche Waltz. Metta Wolff was the teacher at Stone, as it was then called, for eight months at a salary of \$40. George C. Oliver, Anthony Marsicek and John A. Preslicka were the Board members.



The pupils are, top row: Elton Rhine, Ethel Rhine Oliver, Elva Skipton Douce, Miss Wolff teacher, Martha Oliver Else. Second row: Tillie Marsicek Hirmon, Frances Marsicek Shulda, Mary Marsicek Shulda, Sophia Pelesky Slavik, Maggie McKenna, Zora Morton Allen, Anna Pelecky Lahodny, Stella Pelecky Ptacek and Mary McKenna. Third row: (little) Sophia Pelecky Burda, Mary Pelecky Nemec, Libby Marsicek Kouba, Mary Rhine and Blanche Skipton Strnad Waltz. Front row: Blanche Marsicek Bartel, Lenora Marsicek Lesovsky, Albena Shorney Novak, Robert Preslicka, Adolph Marsicek, Ernest Preslicka and Jimmie Rhine. (We note algebraic equations on the blackboard.)

Miss Metta Wolff came from a family in which learning and education were a part of life. This paragraph is quoting Mrs. Viola Mason of Haddam and Mrs. Eliza Harroun of Belleville. "It was in the spring of 1884 that J. I. Wolff, his wife Alice and their four daughters came to Kansas from Mt. Pleasant, Iowa and located on a farm in Farmington Township. In 1887 a fifth daughter joined this happy family. The nearest school to the Wolff residence was two and three quarters miles away. Mr. Wolff soon called a meeting to organize a school closer to their home. So District 119, Island School, was built about 1890."

"The three oldest Wolff girls walked to Dist. 10, then called Stone, and Mrs. Viola Wolff Morey tells us her first teacher was Mrs. Wilson and Tedaman Hall was her second teacher. Then the Wolff girls went to Island School, 119.

Mrs. Alice Skipton Wolff, the mother of the five girls, taught in the county schools of Henry County, Iowa. Her daughters were: Metta Wolff, Viola Morey Mason, Cora Devore, Ida Bently Kieth and Eliza Harroun. The total number of years taught by the Wolff sisters was seventy-two (72). Mrs. Alice Wolff enjoyed counting how many of her grandchildren were teachers. Out of eleven grandchildren, there were nine who were teachers." (End of quote)

The picture of Metta Wolff is from a Souvenir,



# SOUVENIR

Wealth may seek us, but  
Wisdom must be sought



NOT FOR SCHOOL BUT FOR LIFE WE LEARN

probably about 1912 or 1913 when she taught Crescent.

The Sandhills Church was located a short distance east of the Stone School, Dist. 10, and was on the south side of the road. Many old-timers called it the Campbellite Church. The following is taken from the World Book Encyclopedia: "A religious body was organized in 1809 by Thomas and Alexander Campbell, who were father and son. . . The Campbell group called the 'Campbellites' formed its own churches between 1827-1830, thus the name."

In 1906, the organization split into two branches, the Progressive and the Conservative. There are those, including Allie Joy, that remember that the old Sandhills church was moved, section by section, to the town of Narka, before the turn of the century. It was reassembled by interested men of the Crescent community. It stands today at the south end of Main Street and is referred to as the Christian church.

On August 8, 1910, chairman Ed Brown called the meeting to order to vote bonds for a new schoolhouse to the amount of \$800.00. The bond offer at 5 percent was sent to the State Fund Commission at Topeka, but was rejected for lack of funds. So the school District made a new bond offer at 6 percent, again sent it into Topeka and it was gain rejected. On the 29th day of October, 1910, bonds were sold to Mrs. Evaline Pilkenton for \$800 at 6 percent.

On August 22, 1910 a special meeting was called for the purpose of selling the old schoolhouse and to make plans for the new one. A motion was made that the school be sold in four different pieces: the roof in two pieces, windows in two pieces and ceiling and joists together, floor joists together. Plans were made to reserve 18 inches of the old wall for the new school. The east half of the roof was sold to Ed Brown for \$7, the west side to James Mapes

for \$6.50. The joists and ceiling went to H. M. Walker for \$6.50, the floor and joists and mop board went to George Skipton for \$5.00. Other buyers took the windows for .30, desk and equipment for .50 to H. I. Wolff, Irvin Tiff, J. M. Griswold, A. Marsicek, A. Shara, Sam Foster and Will Mapes, G. C. Oliver and Irvin Tiff, clerk. The smount from the sale was \$29.40. J. I. Wolff agreed to take all good rock of the old Stone School at \$1.25 a load and the small rock and mortar at .50 a load.

On August 29, 1910 four bids were received for a contract to build the new school: Wm. H. Foster \$800.00; Robert Harroun \$892.50; J. E. Alexander \$1060.00; J. H. Slough \$1100.00

A the meeting of July 21, 1910 it was voted to tear down the old Stone School and build a new one. The name of the old school must have been changed from Stone to Crescent about 1910-11. The last available Directory was 1908-09 which listed it as Stone.



Can you imagine the thoughts that went through the mind of this young pioneer teacher as she heard the words: "Some of the pupils from Dist. 10, the Stone School, will be coming to Island School during the time a new schoolhouse is being built there. Others will be going to Haworth, Dst. 4, and to Eureka, Dist. 11. This teacher of a past generation was Emma A. Rundus, mother of daughters who taught or continue to teach in Republic County: Karla Kadavy, Helen Kadavy Joy, Sylvia Kadavy Shoemaker and Bonnie Kadavy Rightmeier.

We felt that we should help "To perpetuate the reminiscences of days which are held dear to every heart, . . . hoping thereby to cause a thrill of joy to permeate the hearts of those who treasure it (the Souvenir) until the echoes of these days have been mingled into the hum of industry." Blanche Bartel treasured the Souvenir these 65 years and so we want our readers to know that the pupils of Crescent and Island in 1910-11 who had Emma A. Rundus for their teacher were: Stanley Vocasek, Joseph Strnad, Louise Kvasnicka, Frankie Chopp, Charley Dovel, Nettie Konop, Willie Chopp, Rose Marsicek, Mamie Kouba, Edward Chopp, Olive Wranosky, Caroline Strnad, Edward Kuchera, Stanley Kvasnicka, Olive Dovel, Mary Strnad, Anna Marsicek, Edward Konop, Joseph Marsicek, Blanche Marsicek, Lotti Wranosky, Joseph Boukal and Tillie Marsicek. The school officers were: J. I. Wolff, C. F. Strnad and F. Wranosky.

After the old Stone Schoolhouse had been replaced by a new wooden structure, this place of learning for the young people in the community needed a name. The teacher, Elva G. Skipton, discussed these names and their meanings with the students and they were to decide upon a name: Farmington, the name of the township; Crescent,

to grow or enlarge; or Summit, implies the topmost level attainable. The name "Crescent" received the most votes - thus the name. This is the only school we know that received its name in this manner.

The pupils that year in the new frame building from Sept. 4, 1911 until April 18, 1912 with Miss Skipton as their teacher were: Elva Brown, Ernie Barton, Chester Griswold, Emma Krisan, Arnold Krisan, Tillie Marsicek, Blanche Marsicek, Joe Marsicek, Laura Marsicek, Adolph Marsicek, Libbie Marsicek, Lenora Marsicek, Stella Marsicek, Joe F. Marsicek, Adelaide Marsicek, Kenneth Mapes, Erma Mapes, John Pirutek, Mary Pelesky, Alben Shorney, Rosie Schemonski, Elenora Shulda, Edward Shulda, Bart Shulda, Blanche Skipton, Ethel Tiff, Lawrence Tiff, Thelma Tiff and Enid Tiff. Miss Skipton was the teacher at \$50 per month for seven months for these 30 pupils. The board members for the first year of the new school were: Ed Brown, A. Marsicek and Irvin Tiff. W. M. Sloopansky was County Superintendent.

In 1915-16, L. M. Bouska was the teacher. On November 5th the Island School pupils played baseball at Crescent. The score was 5-7 in favor of Island.

During the summer of 1915 Blanche Marsicek kept records for the Crescent Sunday School which opened on Sunday afternoon at two o'clock. Superintendent was Irvin Tiff, Assist. was L. N. Bouska, Secretary was Blanche Marsicek, organist was Blanche Skipton, and assist. organist was Tillie Marsicek. There were four classes taught by L. N. Bouska, Thelma Tiff, Metta Wolff and Irvin Tiff. There were 29 to 39 in attendance and the collections ranged from .34 to \$1.39.

A program and box supper was held December 4, 1919. The proceeds were \$32.25, used to buy boxing gloves, a basketball, pictures and for subscriptions for the pupils to become members of Junior Red Cross. Ella Waltman was the teacher.

In 1921 Blanche Skipton was responsible for the fine program and a cakewalk on November 17. The \$14.50 proceeds were used to buy an organ and a baseball. Miss Skipton's pupils in 1920-21 were: these girls in the back row: Viola Marsicek Brabec, Marie Semerad Chopp, Victoria Shimek Blazek, and in front are Ila Shimek Blazek, and Irene Mapes Lull. You can see that real companionship existed among the pupils of rural schools. At this age there were no thoughts of religious, ethnic or nationality barriers.



The seven boys completed the dozen pupils: This is the mode of dress prevalent in the 20's. An old adage of



today, "I want to wear the same things as my friends do" was always true. In the back are: Earl Griswold, George Marsicek, George McKenna, Arleigh Krisan. In the front row are: Ed Semerad and Marvin Mapes. Pictures are courtesy of Blanche Skipton Strnad who was the teacher.

Ten year later in 1930-31, Joe Shorney, A. W. Marsicek and C. L. Pelesky were board members and Helen Huncovsky was the teacher for \$75. The pupils were Blanche, Ella and Frank Shorney; Bonnie, Doane, Dale, Leona and Ila Jakabosky; Cleo Mapes; Rowland Hubka; Willie and Leona Pelesky; Bobby, Arlie and Audrey Cox and Lloyd Derowitsch.

The 'unpredictable thirties' was a period that many rural teachers remember. What was lacking in financial aid was more than made up in enthusiasm and experience. The sheer knowledge of helping form young minds compensated for many material things—the absence of materials for busy work to keep children occupied and also learning. Teachers during this era spent untold hours preparing their own workbooks. The stove that could get so hot and cool off so quickly had to have fuel carried in and ashes carried out. And how about those water buckets! Children who played so hard during recess and lunch hours drank gallons of water that often was carried by the teacher from a neighboring farm home, or else two pupils carried the bucket on a stick with two nails in it to keep the bucket from sliding to either side.

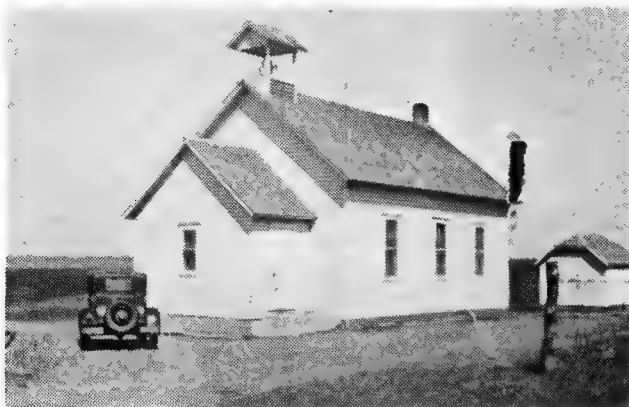
Here is just one sample, kept by Myrna Novak Joy, of the piles and piles of pupil's worksheets that had to be graded often in the wee hours of the morning!

## Taller Shorter

1. Father is taller than the baby.
2. The baby is shorter than father.
3. A house is taller than the fence.
4. A robin is shorter than a hen.
5. I am taller than a doll.

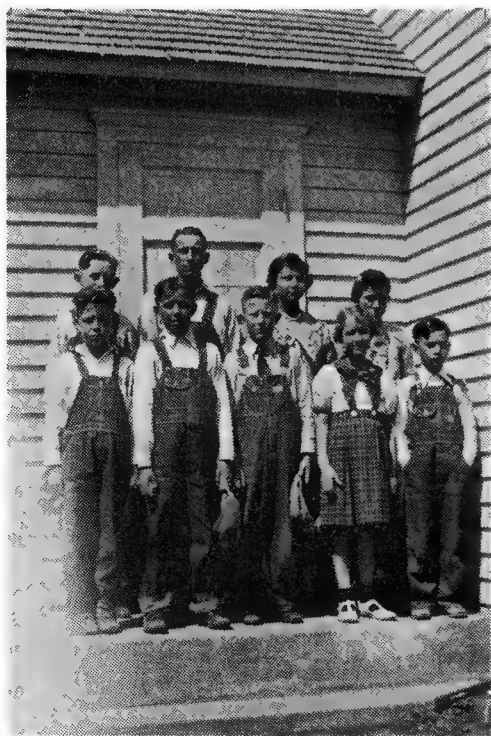
Frances Dejmal  
teacher

A beginning teacher always had to compete with those who had had years of experience. Often the wages were determined by whether you stayed in the family home or had to pay for room and board. Yes, there were many teachers who began their careers in the thirties and continued to teach for years to come. And there were those young people who turned to other ways of life after teaching in the Depression Years of the 1930's. Frances Dejmal was one of these.



Here is a quote from an article in a newspaper: "He went to Washington, D. C. to work in civil service. In the meantime, he entered the Benjamin Franklin University earning a degree in Accounting and Business Administration. He served in the United States Navy as a Chief Yeoman from 1942-46 at the time of World War II.

After the Navy career, he was one of five persons named by President Dwight D. Eisenhower to be a foreign service officer of Class 4 consuls and secretaries in the diplomatic service of the United States. He spent several years in Austria in this service."



In this picture dated April 19, 1935, were: Dale Jakabosky, 8th, Roland Marsicek, 7th, Ila Jakabosky, 6th, Leona Jakabosky, 6th, Arlie Cox, 4th, Frank Jakabosky, 4th, Dean Morton, 4th, Audrey Cox, 4th, and John E. Shorney 2nd grade. It was the last day when the teacher handed out report cards. There were mixed emotions as each pupil opened his record of the past year. DID I PASS? was the main thought in mind. With a sigh of relief, he soon had other things to think about. "I'm hungry! What did my Mom fix for this last day dinner? Or, do you suppose our Dads would play a game of ball with us kids? Or, Gee Whiz, why did I HAVE to wear these new overalls and white shirt today?" Lucky to have them, though. Yes, the last day of school was a very special event - not only for the pupils, but for the parents, the family and everyone in the district.

The records of Frances Dejmal from 1933-36 show this was a period of insecurity - families moving in and out of the district. Often there were new children on March first, or pupils left the school at this time. In 1934-35, from October to March, there were five extra pupils at Crescent, but the picture showed only nine on the last day.

Eureka School, Dist. 11, visited Crescent on February 14, 1935. It was a nice way to spend Valentine's Day in friendly companionship. Their teacher was Glen Dora Swan. The pupils were: Anton Sterba, Lloyd Derowitsch, Gladys Kolman, Anne Bartak, Norma Stephens, Vernon Kroulik, Malcolm Lahodny, Evelyn Kolman, Geneva Kolman, Gerald Lillie, Virgil Lahodny and Lesslie Stephens.



Then during Francis Dejmal's last year at Crescent, 1935-36, these were his pupils: Roland Marsicek, Ila Jakabosky, Leona Jakabosky, Arlie Cox, Audrey Cox, Frankie Jakabosky, Dean Morton, Leland Strnad, Roland



Strnad, Johnnie Shorney, Arvid Bergstrom, Myrna Novak and Kenneth Novak.

Children of three new families came into the community. Leland and Roland Strnad entered as fourth graders, Kenneth Novak in first grade and Myrna in second by Feb. 20, and Arvid Bergstrom in first grade on March 3rd.

These last day of school pictures for 1936 remind us of the family names: Shorney, Marsicek, Novak, Bergstrom, Cramer, Cox, Strnad, Pelesky, Semerad, Morton and Waltz.

No doubt teaching in the 30's was a memorable part of Francis Dejmál's life. The pictures, momentos, etc. that were used in this Crescent history were among his possessions in Denver where he worked in Hotel Management at the time of his death, July, 1976.

Rarely would we ever be able to bring you the thoughts of a child on the last day, but here is the letter written by Audrey Cox to Francis Dejmál his last year at Crescent:

*Francis, I hate to see you go away from this school. You have taught us better than any other teacher. I would like to have you teach here again, but I am glad you are getting a better school. I am sure the pupils at the other school will be satisfied with you. I don't believe we will get a better teacher than you are.*  
— Audrey



Elmer Zavodsky's pupils in 1940 were: Back row: the teacher Elmer Zavodsky, Myrna Novak Joy, Audrey Cox, Dean Morton, Frank Jakabosky, Arlie Cox, unknown, John Edward Shorney is partly hidden. Front row: Kenneth Novak, Melva Jakabosky, unknown (hand over heart), Neva Jakabosky, Dorothy Bergstrom, Lorene Pelesky Salmon, Arlene Jakabosky, Marvin Bergstrom and Arvid Bergstrom.

At the last day dinner in 1940 we remember these families: Novak, Marsicek, Bergstrom, Pelesky, Shorney, Jakabosky, Morton, Cox. Pictures are courtesy of Ella Novak.



We will give our readers as a nearly accurate list of Crescent School teachers as possible, beginning with 1895:

1895 Kate McKenna, 3 months from July 7; Kate McKenna received two payments in a fall term of \$30.00.

1896 Kate McKenna, 4 months, Jan. to April; Rosa Haworth, May to June; Kate McKenna Sept. to Dec. and vacation.

1897 Kate McKenna, Feb. 1 to March 29; Rosa Haworth, April 12 to June 4; R. Maddan, 3 month fall term ending Nov. 27 \$27.50.

1898 R. Maddan, February to March 30 \$30.00; Effie Howard April to June \$27.00; Marion Duff, December \$27.00.

1899 Marion Duff, January to June \$28.50; R. E. Adams, October to December \$35.00.

1900 R. E. Adams, January to April \$35.00; M. L. Morley, September to December \$31.50.

1901 M. L. Morley, January to May \$31.50.

1904 Metta Wolff, eight months \$40.00; 1908 Ethel Rhine seven months, one payment in April of \$351.00; Ethel Rhine, two months Sept. and Oct. \$50.00.

1909 Ethel Rhine, two months payment on Feb. 16 \$100.00; Ethel Rhine, three months payment on Apr. 30 \$150.00.

1909-10 Charity Jensik (called Chariteen on her Souvenir; paid on Jan. 3. \$200.00.

Charity Jensik paid for four months Apr. 25 \$200.00.

1910-11 Elva Skipton

1911-12 Elva Skipton

1912-13 Metta Wolff

1913-14 Metta Wolff

1914-15 L. N. Bouska, 38 pupils

1915-16 L. N. Bouska 28 pupils

1916-17 L. N. Bouska 26 pupils.

1917-18 Thelma Seifert 23 pupils.

1918-19 Ella Waltman 23 pupils.

1921-22 Blanche Skipton 17 pupils

1922-23 Frances Doupnik, 8 months \$85.00

1930-31 Helen Mae Huncovsky 17 pupils

1931-32 Helen Mae Huncovsky 15 pupils

1932-33 Helen Mae Huncovsky 13 pupils

1933-34 Francis Dejmál 12 pupils

1934-35 Francis Dejmál

1935-36 Francis Dejmál 13 pupils

1936-37 Mildred Zach, 16 pupils

1937-38 Elmer E. Zavodsky 12 pupils

1938-39 Irene Johnson 15 pupils

1939-40 Dale Pancake 12 pupils

1940-41 Dale Pancake, 10 pupils

1941-42 Eleanor Kaufman

1942-43 Mrs. Ella Novak, 9 pupils

1943-44 Mrs. Ruby Strumfa



From 1946-51 the pupils were sent to other districts. The last teacher at Crescent was Mrs. Ruby Strumfa in 1943-44. The board members were: Mrs. Anna Jakabosky, John J. Shorney, and A. W. Marsicek. The pupils were: Lorene Pelesky, Neva, Arlene and Melva Jakabosky, and Doris Sedlacek.

Disorganization came August 10, 1951 and land was transferred to three adjoining districts-Haworth District 4, Farmington Dist. 11, and Round Grove District 53. The school ground automatically reverted to the original farm, owned by Frank Fisher, Jr. The sale was held on November 26, 1951 and the schoolhouse was sold to A. J. Krisan for \$550 and moved to his farm where it continues its usefulness as a building for storage. The farm is now owned by Roger Novak and occupied by Leonard Ehlers. It is located about 1½ miles east and ¼ mile north, then a short distance west from its original location.

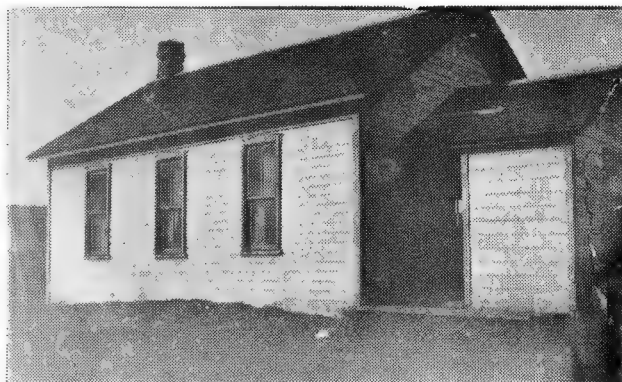
In the past, Crescent was the voting place for Farmington Township.

In this Bicentennial Year this old Souvenir dating about 1909-10, when Chariteen G. Jensik taught at Crescent (called Stone at that time), seems to carry a patriotic sentiment with George Washington at the top, the Bell of Liberty, and on it the picture of Independence Hall.



## EUREKA SCHOOL DISTRICT 11

On what is now the NW¼ of section 29 in Farmington Township, Theodore Ingham and his wife Julia A. settled for their homestead. They settled here in 1871 and received their patent December 30, 1876. On September 10, 1879 he deeded one acre of the land to School District 11. The warranty deed stated, "as long as said land is used for school purposes". The location of the acre is in the NE corner of the NW¼ of section 29.



Eureka School 11 was built on this acre in 1879, to the north near the road in the NE corner. There is no record on how the school got its name. No one seems to remember or know. The name Eureka, which means, "I have found it," allows us one guess. So possible the early homesteaders thought they had found the land they wanted. Thus, when the school was built, the name Eureka was given to it. (Picture courtesy of Laura Stepanek.)

Theodore Ingham deeded the N½ of the NW¼ to Anton (Tony) Houdek on January 16, 1893 with exception of this one acre for the school. It was felt that more playground could be used, so Mr. Houdek allowed about three more acres in that corner. But there never was a deed given to the land.

The earliest record of a school board that we can find is for 1895. These members then were, T. Arbuthnot, S.A. Ingham and C.W. Wagener.

About the earliest and largest boundaries or sections, for school district 11 in Farmington Township, we find as follows: all of sections 19,20,21,30 and 29, all of section 28 except the SE¼ of the SE¼. Then the S½ of 18, S½ of 17 and NE¼ of 17 and S½ of 16 W½ of NW¼ of 16. Soon after that sections 31, 32, and 33 were added, then SE¼ of section 24 in Fairview Township was added. On August 18, (no year listed) the county superintendent stated, "I have this day detached the SE¼ of the SE¼ of section 28, T-2, R-1 from this district." Other changes at different times were made in the boundary territory thereafter.

Records of the schools earliest days are few, those that we find are hard to read. We did get the names of pupils of the term of 1888-89, but the teacher's name was missing. The pupils names are as follows: Grammar Grade: Ruth Moore, Mabel Ingman, Ella Dale, Zena Ingham, Henry Oldham, Leonard Ingham, Minter King, John Nokes.

Intermediate Grade: Mabel Dale, Edith Davis, Flora Ingham, Fannie Ingham, Maggie Oldham, Ollie Fox, Schulyer Fox, Eddie Moore, Walter Oldham, Maude Oldham, Annie Houdek, Pearle Ingham, Frank Hanson, Effie Briscoe, Orvin Still, George Smith, Rollie Ingham.

Primary Grade: Howard Ingham, Emma Barnett, Tillie Chopp, Luie Ingham, Willie Ingham, Bessie Houdek, Winnie Cook, John Mattison, Roy Fox, Lydia Oldham, Charles McHenry, Leone Ingham.

We also have pupils of the 1905-06 term. The teacher was Adel aide Jensik. The pupils were as follows: Dorrel James, Frank Dannefer, Edith Greenleaf, Ollie Hicks, Ray Stepanek, Howard Overstake, Bessie Lahodny, Ella Lahodny, Eddie Lahodny, Ona Wagener, Cecil Smith, Irwin Smith, Helen Summer, Nellie Shideler, Ray Shideler, Jay Shideler, Bennie Lahodny, Irl Hicks, William Hicks, Willie Lahodny, Agnes Kroulik, Bessie Kroulik, Blanche Kroulik, Millie Kroulik, Marlin Evans, Theodore Shimek, Fred Shimek, Tony Kroulik, Jessie Smith, John Heina.

We have also been able to find names of a few teachers between these school terms at the turn of the century. They are: 1890-91 - Georgia Sheldon; 1891-92 - Maude Mills; 1892-93 - Gennieve Sprague; 1893-94 - Edgar E. Baird; 1894-95 - Edgar E. Baird; 1895-96 - Anna Howard; 1896-97 - Genevie Sheldon; 1897-98 - Evangel Sprague; 1898-99 - Dora Edwards; 1899-00 - Mrs. J. H. Bailey; 1900-01 - C. A. Baird; 1901-02 - Jos. A. G. Smith; 1902-03 - Verna Summers; 1903-04 - Bessie Houdek; 1904-05 - Reba Hoffman; 1905-06 - Adellaide Jensik.

Bessie (Houdek) Lang was one of the early day pupils of this school. She also was one of the early teachers of the school. Bessie is the daughter of the late Tony Houdek that gave the extra play ground land to the school. She taught one term in 1903-04, then she married George Lang in 1904. After her marriage she also served on the school board. Bessie's daughter, Helen Lang, was also a pupil at Eureka and later was a teacher there. On April 27, 1976 Bessie celebrated her 94th birthday. She continues to live alone, on her farm, near Eureka School. She has lived here all her married life. She drives her own car and is an avid reader of the Bible. She is very alert of mind, happy, and in good health.

Bessie recalls many memories of those "later years" after her marriage. She lived about a mile west of the school. She relates, as she wrote for the Kansas Centennial Book in 1961 as follows, "Yes, the school bus goes by on schedule with its precious cargo. But it doesn't have the cheery wave of children walking (going to Eureka School), carrying shiny dinner buckets, which I watched in years gone by. Milek and Ella Lahodny, Laura Stepanek, Frank and Annie Bartak, Eulene Hirmon, Glenn and Gayle Lahodny, Vernon Kalivoda and my two, John and Helen Lang. A little further east turning the corner came Elsie Kadlets, Ilene and Lawrence Makalous and Jimmie Houdek. As 4 o'clock neared, our old dog, Sandy, became restless and listening. Two sharp yelps and away he went. The procession stopped, dinner buckets were emptied of left overs, a few gulps from Sandy and the procession moved on with Sandy in the lead. His tail waving like a victorious banner. No bus can replace the friendly neighbors children".

She also relates many box-suppers, programs and events at Eureka School. These were always enjoyed by the children, teachers, and the parents alike. In other money making events, she tells how they paid for school needs, curtains, etc. Once after a money raising event the school board and friendly neighbors said they would also do their share. So they painted the school both inside and outside.

Mrs. E. F. Stepanek has shared this 1912 picture of



Eureka School when Bertha McDonald was the teacher: Back row, left to right - Grace Gibboney, Sophie Pelesky, Helen Wokal, Blanche Kroulik, Ida Cartmell and Ella Lahodny.

Second row from the back: Tressie Dorman, Pauline Shara, Miss McDonald, Bessie Hess.

Third row from the back: Marie Hess, Milek, Lahodny, Adelaide Lahodny, Laura Stepanek, Elsie Kadlets and Mollie Kroulik.

Front row, seated: Ted Shimek, Frank Klima, Claude Gibboney and Ed Dorman.

The next records found are for the following terms and the teachers are: 1914-15 - Laura Haney - she had 5 visitors. 1915-16 - Nellie Engle - she had 16 visitors. 1916-17 - Nellie Engle - she had 7 visitors. 1917-18 - Charity Jensik Shimek - she has 9 visitors. 1918-19 - Lottie C. Barton - she had 4 visitors. 1923-24 - Ida Cartmell Carpenter.



Helen Beneda Makalous shared this 1924 picture of Eureka School when Helen Lang was the teacher. The children are: Back row - the teacher Miss Lang, Harold Davidson, Henry Sterba, Ernie Lahodny, Adelaide Johnson and Adelaide Sterba. Middle row: Lawrence Makalous, Jimmy Houdek, John Lang, unknown, Blanche Sterba, Olive Lahodny. Front row: Alvin Lahodny, Bobby Lahodny, Gayle Lahodny, Mollie Kroulek, Marie Lahodny, Afton Davidson and Annie Sterba.

Then again we have lost records, until the term of

1940-41. From a book of clerk's records written by Frank Makalous we find teachers names for four earlier terms. Mr. Makalous was a member on the school board before this book, as well as after, so we do not know how many years he actually served.

The school board members in order of their elected terms, beginning with years, 1940-41 are as follows: Frank Makalous - (6 years known) 2 as above dated - 4 in previous years. Probably some additional years before the 1936-37 term. Jimmy Houdek - 8 years known - He probably served before the 1940-41 term. Tony Kadlets - 4 years known - He probably also served before the 1940-41 term.

These following are actual years as served, on through the school term of 1963-64. John Shara, 2 years; Ed Fisher, 9 years; Alvin Lahodny, 11 years; Frank Bartak, 12 years; Bill Pelesky, 10 years; Dale Jakabosky, 4 years; Chester Chopp, 4 years and John Shara 3 years in addition to his earlier 1943-44 and 1944-45 term years.

Eureka School burned down on March 3, 1943. Charles Heina was the teacher at the time. For the balance of the term, school was held in the house to the south. It is now the home of Ed and Blanche Fisher. After the fire, nothing was left but the rock foundation. The school was replaced with another school (Vanderbilt) that was brought here from one mile west of the Prisoner of War Camp north of Concordia, Kansas. This school fits the foundation for size reasonably well and still stands on the original foundation as Eureka School No. 11. It is one of the few oldest schools still standing in the county.

Over the years Eureka school housed entertainment for the pupils and families as well as for others in the district. The school also had a P.T.A. that met there and had entertainment. On October 29, 1955 they had a meeting. There were 13 present plus 4 guests. Some school children came masked, they were judged in a contest. Susan Pelesky, received 1st prize dressed as Minnie Mouse. 2nd prize went to Marilyn Bartak dressed as a witch. 3rd prize went to Glenn Fisher who came dressed as a hobo.

The business meeting was conducted by Anna May Jakabosky, the club's president. It was agreed to send cards to any one in the school- district who was in a hospital for over 24 hours. The evening was spent playing cards. High score went to Mrs. Frank Makalous - Ed Fisher and the low score went to Mildred Klima - Frank Makalous.

With records reasonably complete from 1940-41 and some found before we can now list the teachers complete after 1936-37 term. They are as follows: 1936-38 - Irene Johnson - No visitors recorded. 1938-41 - Helen Lesovsky - Had 4 visitors in 1940-41. No records 1938-40. 1941-42 - Opal Marie Shum - Had 14 visitors. 1942-44 - Charles Heina - 6 visitors in 1943-44. No record 1942-43. 1944-45 - Dorothy Bonar - 5 visitors. 1945-46 - Mrs. Helen Rhine - 9 visitors. 1946-47 - Alice Benyshek - Got married - resigned. 1946-47 - Mrs. Olive Fojt - Finished the term. 5 visitors in 1946-47. 1947-50 - Mrs. Florence Blecha - 4 in 1947-48. 13 in 1948-49. 3 in 1949-50. 1950-51 - Mrs. Lorene Lahodny - Had 5 visitors. 1951-53 - Marilyn Brokesh - 6 in 1951-52. 7 in 1952-53. 1953-54 - Mrs. Florence Blecha - Had 21 visitors. 1954-57 - Mrs. Marie Klima - 26 in 1954-55. 32 in 1955-56. 27 in 1956-57. 1957-61 - Gwendolyn Holly - 11 in 1957-58. 21 in 1958-59. No records 1959-61.

Mrs. Florence Blecha and Gwendolyn Holly each taught 4 years at Eureka. Two others taught 3 years each,

Mrs. Marie Klima and Helen Lesovsky. Then there were 3 with 2 years each, Irene Johnson, Marilyn Borkesh and Charles Heina.

The last school was held the term of 1960-61. Gwendolyn Holly was the last teacher. The six pupils that last year were: Ronald J. Marsicek, Tommy Pelesky, Dennis Chopp, Connie Lahodny, Terry Shara, Susan Pelesky. The board members during that year were, William Pelesky, director; Chester Chopp, clerk and Frank Bartak, treasurer.

Bethlehem School 19, 3 miles to the north was disorganized June 22, 1961 by the county superintendent, W. J. Matthias. But when it was closed, it was then consolidated with Narka District, Jt. Con. 223; Munden 20 and Eureka 11. Part of their boundary townships went to Eureka 11. It was township 2-S, Range 1-W on the 6th p.m., NE ¼ of section 16 and SE ¼ of the NW ¼ of 16.

After Eureka School closed in 1961 the pupils went to Narka District Jt. 223 R.W., Cuba Jt. 111 R. W. and Munden District 20. Then the final order was signed by W. J. Matthias, county superintendent on August 15, 1964. The board members at that time were John J. Shara, director; William C. Pelesky, clerk and Chester Chopp as treasurer.

The above school board met on June 1, 1962, there would be no school nor a school teacher. From the minutes of this meeting, this is stated, "The school children from this district go to different schools: some to Narka, some to Munden and the rest to Cuba. Later they also stated, "We decided not to do anything to the schoolhouse or grounds as we don't feel school will be held here anymore." It is believed that these same board members continued until the school district was disorganized.

After the school was closed the land went back to the farm land. It was then owned by Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Bruns. The building was later sold to the township for local elections. The township paid \$5.00 for the old school. It is still used today for election purposes. Mr. Bruns now farms the land to the south and west sides near the old school. The land to the north and east sides are left for parking space during elections.

The old coal shed next to the school was sold to Alvin Lahodny. He moved it to his farm and now uses it as a grain bin. The merry-go-round was bought by Raymond Bruns. It is now in the middle of the lawn under a shade tree at their farm home. The outhouses (privies), one was sold at the time of the school sale; the other remained there with the school building. On last Halloween (1975) this out-house was carried away. It is still not known where it went.

Today, still standing south of the oil-mat road, between Cuba and Narka, is this Eureka School 11. It is one of the few old country school houses still standing, kept up and used in Republic County. But, it is only on election days that you see activity there. — Researched and written by, E. F. Stepanek. May 16, 1976.

#### BEEBE SCHOOL NO. 12

The records of Beebe School are very vague. There is very little of the true facts known or remembered. The first two schools in district No. 12 were not called Beebe. From the best information we can now find, the first school was a log cabin built in 1869. This school was without a name. It was located in the south east corner of



section 8. School here was discontinued in 1879. The pupils were transferred to the new school across the road east in the south west corner of section 9. This was on the farm of the late Lenora Trecek. This school is believed to have had a name, but no one seems to remember it. Nor is there a record of the name. The first teacher of this school is said to have been Clara Tucker. In some history it is stated that these pupils were transferred to Beebe. But, there was no school named Beebe at that time. Those that went there, in later years, referred to this school as Beebe.

After Cuba settled in its present location in 1884 their new school was built in 1886. The boundaries were then changed. Part of what was district No. 12 had then become district No. 111. With this change it became necessary to move the frame school in section 9 one mile further east. In this new location, it was in the same corner, but, in the south west corner of section 10. This was on the late Anton Fisher farm. Here it became known as Beebe School.

James W. Beebe, homesteaded in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 10. He leased an acre of this land in the southwest corner of this section to School District No. 12. It was a 99-year lease with the understanding it was to be continually used for a school. This school was given the name of Beebe. The homesteader spelled his name Beebe, but the school records and pamphlets sometimes spelled it as Beebee. It is believed it was moved to this location in 1887. A Mr. Richards was the first teacher in this new location.

Joe Benyshek states he attended school here in 1902 and that Carrie Robb was his first teacher. Some of the pupils in that one-room country school with Joe were: William Brown, Minnie Anderson, Emma Fisher, Anna Shimek, Emma Havel, Anna Kopsa, Jessie Zook, Barbara Havel, Mary Benyshek, Julia Benyshek, Jim Fisher, Willie Fisher, John Shorney, Stella Hadachek. Reba Hoffman was another teacher he had in this school.

There was no well at this school for their water supply. So the pupils had to take turns to go for water, at a farm yard to the west. This farm had three wells and a big dog. They had to pull the water up in a bucket attached to a long rope. You can be sure, they picked the well that was the furthest from the house - and that dog.

Some of the men that had been the earlier members of this District No. 12 school board were, over different years, John Sonntag, Mike Hadachek, John Chizek and Bill Zook. In this old school building during the term of 1919-20 Elizabeth Hadachek was the teacher. During the term she died and a Mrs. Damon finished the term teaching.

The district wanted a new school. A larger building was badly needed. So the school building was sold in March of 1920. It was bought by Joe Kalivoda and moved

half a mile east and one-quarter mile south. It was there used as a granary. At this location it was struck by lightning and it burned to the ground.

At once, after the old schoolhouse had been moved, a new school was built on the same location. It was built by two local carpenters. Joe Benyshek and Bill Dorman. The school that fall was taught in a new building by Matilda Schneberger. She had a total of 26 pupils. They were as follows: Pearlie Fisher, Bessie Fisher, Frances Benyshek, Helen Shulda, Viola Benyshek, Blanche Benyshek, Mary Fisher, Leona Benyshek, Laura Reynolds, Martha Reynolds, Bart Fisher, Ernest Fisher, Edward Fisher, Charlie Fisher, Eddie Fisher, Bennie Benyshek, Herbert Reynolds, Charlie Reynolds, Lawrence Sonntag, Willie Sonntag, Willie Kopsa, Eddie Benyshek, Bennie Shimek, Willie Klima, James Klima, Libbie Shulda. During that year they held a box supper in November, before Thanksgiving, which netted \$87.50. This money was used for needs of the new school.

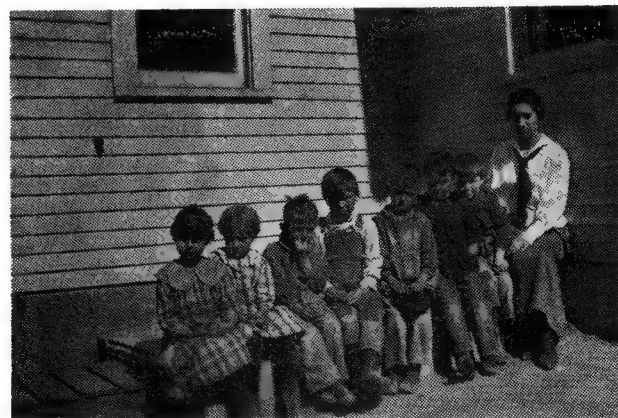
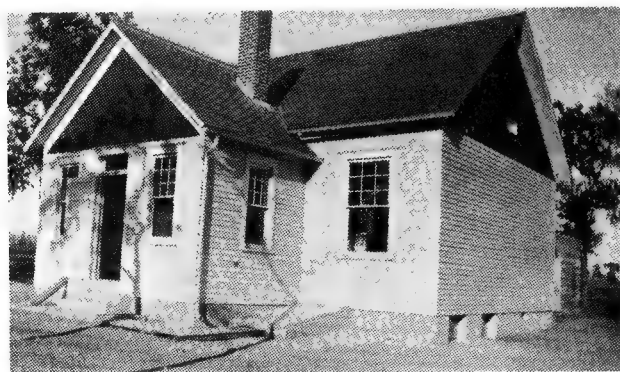
In the spring, 1921, on the last day of school, they had a "Last Day of School" pot luck dinner. It was attended by the pupils and the parents. They also had a nice program and Miss Mary Jansky, County Superintendent, was there



and made a short talk. After the program the teacher gave each of the pupils a booklet made up of pictures of the school and the pupils in the school. A meeting had been held, it was voted that Miss Schneberger could have the school again the following term, if she wished it. But she refused the school, stating she was to be married to Wesley Kolman.

Two Pictures - Submitted by Matilda Schneberger (E.F. Stepanek)

Pupils of the First Grade with Miss Matilda Schneberger. Seated left to right are, Libby Shulda, Viola Benyshek, James Klima, Willie Sonntag, Willie Klima, Charley Reynolds, Lawrence Sonntag. Teacher.





School was continued in this building until the years of 1949 or 1950. It was soon thereafter bought by Frank Mottl. He moved it into Cuba and remodeled it into the home for himself and his wife Frances. Now Beebe School stands, remodeled into a home, and is located in Cuba, Kansas. Dwann Veroda is believed to be the last teacher at Beebe. — Researched and written by, E. F. Stepanek, March 20, 1976.

#### DISTRICT 13 - ALBION SCHOOL

The first settlement in Albion Township was made on the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 26, by Reuben Phillips, in October 1869. The first school in the township was taught by Ed Waterbury, in what is now District No. 13, in the spring of 1871. This was a three-months subscription school. The school room was a dugout, formerly occupied by Dr. Waterbury as a residence, situated on the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 28.

Records of January 1887 show that on the SW quarter Section 29 Township 1 Range 1 W. owned by John W. McCall & Eliza J. Mc Call was a  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre in the S.E. corner be "used for school puposes as long as used for that purpose".

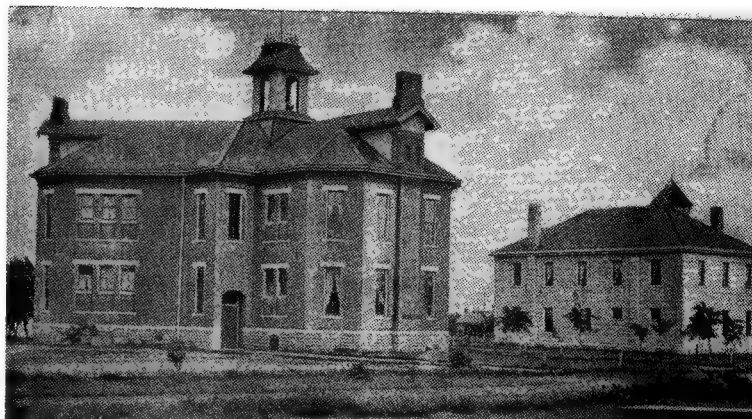
Miss Belle Kessler taught in 1888. School was held continuously until 1958. Mrs. Helen Trzicky was the last teacher. The building was purchased by Clyde Thomas, and the bell by Joe Novotny.



#### DISTRICT 14 - BELLEVILLE SCHOOLS

A few years previous to the building of the first Court House in Belleville we know that there was a 16' by 18' log cabin that served as the first school in Belleville. It really was the Town House, the first structure on the town site that served also as post office, courthouse, land office, drug store, and meeting place for religious services. The cost was \$35.00 for materials and \$26.00 for construction cost. (Savage, p. 176, Carstensen, p. 466)

According to Glenn B. Snapp, who researched material for Centennial Days, Belleville, Kansas, 1869-1969, a courthouse (lower floor) and schoolhouse (upper floor) combination was built in 1871 on the present site of the East Elementary Building. It was a 24' by 50' stone



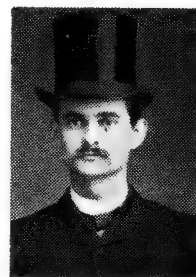
structure. There seems to be no picture for either of these early buildings in which education had its beginnings in Belleville.

The next school was the "North Ward School" built in the 80's on the southwest corner of the Fairgrounds about a block south of the Parkway Lanes of late years. It was moved in 1895 (Miller) or 1899-1905 (court records) as seen in this picture. Later it was moved to the 18th and K St. site, and still later moved and remodeled into a beautiful residence for Mrs. W.D. Vance.

A two-story-over-basement brick building was finished and occupied in February 1886. One room only was dedicated to a three-year high school course. It was native soft brick built at a cost of \$10,000. It stood on the East Elementary School site for 45 years when it was razed as unsafe in 1930.

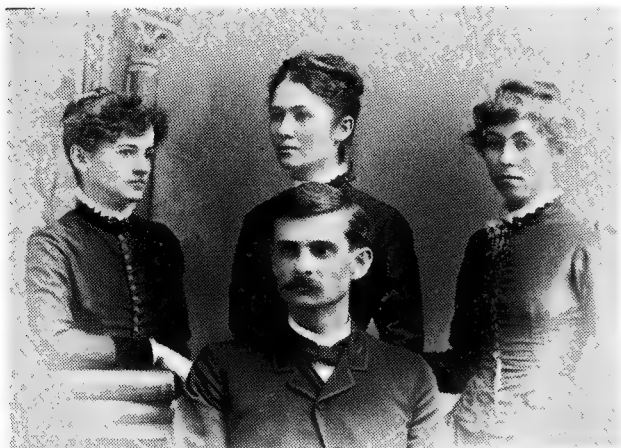
In 1898 a 50' by 50' two-story structure of stone was erected just south of the brick structure, and in 1907 a second addition like it was built to the south connected by a two-story hall to the first part. The second floor was for high school. They were razed in 1952, averaging a bit under 50 years of service to education.

For a moment, let us digress and take a look at some of the teachers at the turn of the century who were responsible for the instruction in those "halls of learning". In the New Year Edition of the Belleville Telescope for December 29, 1907, Professor E.E. Mitchell, Supt. has written that in 1871 the old stone building was presided over by two teachers, but the school in the log school was taught by one teacher, Mrs. Latham. When in 1885 the first stone building was torn down and was replaced by the "magnificent brick building", there were six teachers hired to carry on the work of the then organized Grammar School.

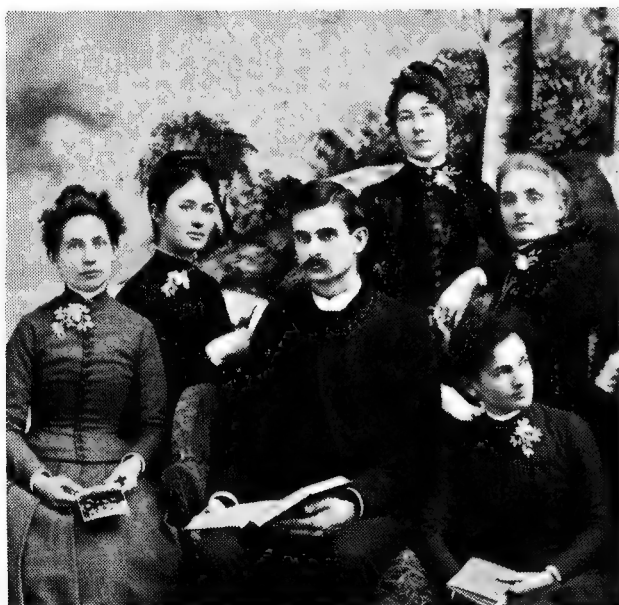


Miss Gwendolyn Glasgow who taught in Belleville during the 1940's and 50's (her picture taken just before coming to Belleville) kindly loaned us some pictures of early teachers, This gentleman, she says, may have been

Superintendent or a professor, but was there in 1887-88 probably in the brick building; Mr. S. P. Domer.



Teachers in 1885-86 in this picture were: Nettie Steed, Olive Sterling (Glasgow), Emma Taylor ?, and S. P. Domer (without the silk hat!)



In 1887-88 the picture shows additions to the staff: Abbie Andrews, Olive Sterling, Kit Ingram, May Alexander, Nettie Steed, and S. P. Domer (all in studied pose so typical of early photographs.)

In 1889 Mr. G. M. Culver was elected to the superintendency with Miss Clarke as assistant. Mr. Culver remained until 1892 with Miss Andrews as assistant the last two years. Then Miss Andrews served as superintendent for one year with Kate Mallon as assistant.

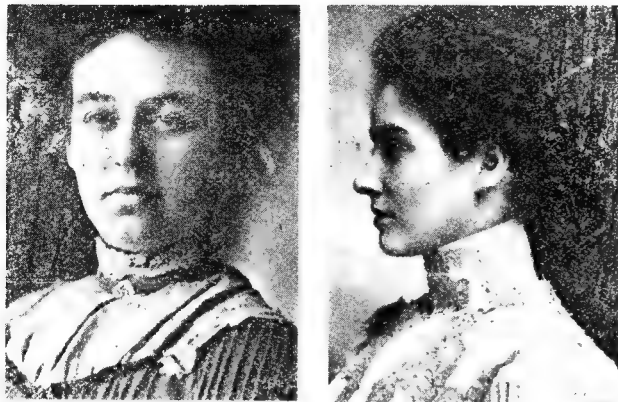
In 1893 Mr. G. W. Stevens was elected to the superintendency with Miss Andrews as assistant. Mr. Stevens remained until 1895. Miss Andrews resigned in December 1894, and was succeeded by Mr. G. M. Newcomer of Michigan. Mr. C. C. Canfield succeeded Mr. Stevens and served until the summer of 1889. His successor was Mr. Growendyke and assisted by Miss Darling in 1900. With a four-year high school course being

adopted that year, another teacher was hired. Mr. J. C. Wright filled this position and was afterward elected to the superintendency for two years.

Mr. E. E. Mitchell succeeded Mr. Wright. He states that "he has the support of a very gracious Board of Education, and a most excellent corps of teachers." In his last paragraph he gazes into the crystal ball: "The schools of Belleville have had a splendid record in the past. With an enthusiastic crops of teachers, with a Board of Education whose single motive is the highest progress of the schools, and with a thinking public whose past attitude augurs an increasing interest for the future, there is no reason why the schools of Belleville should not always occupy a very high rank among similar schools of this great State of Kansas".

We wish to recognize the members of Mr. Mitchell's staff for 1907-8 by their pictures as given in the Telescope's New Year's Edition:





In 1914, a new three-story brick building to be used as a high school was completed at the corner of 16th and facing K St. The bond issue was \$30,000. It was badly damaged by fire in 1918 but was repaired and continued in use until 1962 - a period of 48 years. The latter years of this period saw it in use as a Junior High School. It was razed in 1964.

In 1945 while two of our Retired Teachers Mrs. Helen Beck and Mrs. Doris D. Smith were in the Brick School north of the High School, the Board of Education were: President, Frank G. Spurney, Sr., clerk R. W. Thomasson, George Faulkner, Charles Hanzlick, O.L. Bledsoe and treasurer Paul J. Fulcomer, The Superintendent was Mr. W. E. Hodges.

In 1930, with the 1913 building now badly over-crowded and the 1885 brick building eliminated, bonds in the amount of \$115,000 were voted for yet another high school. With a gymnasium, the cost was \$125,000. It also was on K St., south of the 1913 building facing 18th St., and was dedicated November 19, 1931. It now serves as West Elementary and Junior High.



We have been informed by LaVeda Cornett that during the past ten years in West Elementary School, the Belleville Schools have unified with Munden and Republic Districts. The Belleville High School is the only attendance center for high school students.

New curriculum choices added to the Junior High are: home economics, business math, first year Spanish, plastics and woodworking. A new building built in 1974-75 for the latter two subjects is located just north of the West Elementary School near the location of the 1914 brick structure which has been razed.

In the past few years, special personnel have been added to the staff, due to state requirements: Special Education, School Psychologist, Remedial Reading Instructors, Speech Therapist, Learning Disability Teachers and part-time Librarian on duty at a central library.

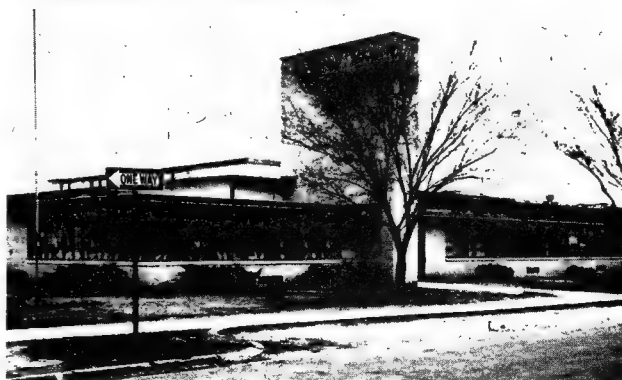


This picture was taken by the old stone Elementary School about 1945 while Mrs. Carrie Whipp was teaching the first grade. (Courtesy of her sister, Mrs. Marguerite Cole). The children were: Bill McBratney, Billy Splichal, (Bedwell), Robert Young, Dick Bottger, Diedra Burandt, Richard Hertlein, Terry Williams, Ronnie Lewis, Larry Waite, Bob Bottger, Sandra (Casey) Doctor, Karen Milner, Allen Brodecker, Rhue Jean, Evelyn Thompson, Judy Stuber. Seated are: Buddy Whitman, Harold Supernaw, Gail Casterline, Gary Summers, two little girls, and Claudia Henderson.

There were so many teachers that served Belleville Grades for years -Miss Florence Lowe, Mrs. Mary Johnson, Miss Ellen Rosenquist, Mrs. Carrie Whipp, Mrs. Evelyn Redden, Mrs. Adee, Mrs. Boelling, Miss Hazel Countryman.

In high school a service record has been made by Mr. and Mrs. King, Mrs. Viola Houdek, Miss Nettie Fraser and many others.

In the late 40's the Board of Education moved for the construction of a new grade school, because of over-crowding in the old stone building on O St. It had served about 50 years and was obsolescent. Bonds were voted in early 1950 in the amount of \$230,000, and the beautiful one-story blond brick building was dedicated January 28, 1952, immediately moved into, and the old stone buildings razed for a more spacious playground. It has kindergarten through grade four instruction.







Increased enrollment, improved standards of instruction and equipment, obsolescence and severe wear and tear on the 1913 structure, and the pressing need for an athletic field, moved the Board of Education to plan yet another high school in 1960. A new site was secured, seventeen acres, east of and facing P St. and 25th St. The bond issue and residual building fund totaled \$494,000, and the building was dedicated September 29, 1962. Miss Karla Kadavy relates that in September, 1962 Belleville High School moved into the new facility and Supt. Robert Butler dedicated the new building. Following Mr. Butler's death, F. E. Barker, Kenneth Guthrie, R. Brunner, I. Figgs, G. Raborn and presently, Ed Fuhrman have manned the head post.

Miss Kadavy points out that Belleville High School affords its students many avenues of training. During the past ten years three BHS students, Tim Boaz, Wayne Burge, and Kenny Albin have received National Merit Finalist Awards.

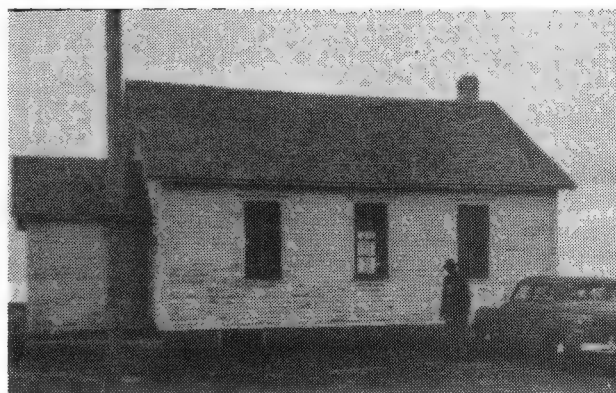
K.M.E.A. has afforded the BHS music students an opportunity to compete with other music students throughout the state.

In Speech and Drama Festivals the students have received regional and state recognition.

Many athletic awards have been won by both boys and girls in the past ten years.

Vocational training is received through industrial arts, vocational agriculture, and homemaking classes, DECA, business and art classes.

Belleville High School has been evaluated twice in the years 1965-75 by the North Central Association and the Kansas State Department of Education. Curriculum changes have been made, courses added and students have been afforded better preparation for life's careers. To the south and east of the building addition of classrooms, cafeteria and other teaching rooms improve the facilities for constantly changing curriculum to meet the needs of changing times.



Board members were: A.P. Wilcox, Jesse Brown, and F.T. Jewell, an entirely new Board.



In 1908-09 Midway School was taught by Miss Eliza Jotter. (Picture is courtesy of Luella Peterson-Graham of Sargent, Nebr.)

Back row: Teacher Miss Jotter, Elizabeth Peterson, Floy McElavin, Morris Peterson, Marie McElavin, (peeking) Velma Smith, Hobert Grant, Vernon Grant and Harold Ettleman.

Second Row: Alice Coulter, Sarah Wolfe, Clarice Hubbell, Nellie Peterson, Lillian Bandy, Waunita Ettleman, Cora Peterson, Luella Peterson, Georgia Eakins, Eva Ettleman.

Front row: Edgar Coulter, Herbert Marhenke, Carl Marhenke, Mayne Hubbell, Merle Smith, Bert Hubbell, Cecil Ettleman, Herb Smith, Ward McElvain and Ernest

#### DISTRICT 15 - MIDWAY SCHOOL

On January 12, 1871 Midway School was organized as District 15. The original Midway School building was located on the east side of Section 11 in Rose Creek Township, 4 miles west and 1½ north of Narka.

In 1894 Daisy Beck of Narka taught for \$25 per month a 6-month term. The Board members were: F.T. Powell, C. Johnson and John Leffingwell. The very next year the



Wolfe. School Board members in 1912-13 were: O. Gooden, J. Coulter, and Marhenke.

The last teacher in this building was Esther Franz. The last graduates were: Alethea Faye Bowman and Gary Russell Young. This schoolhouse was sold to Henry Peterson who tore it down. The land was returned to the farmstead.

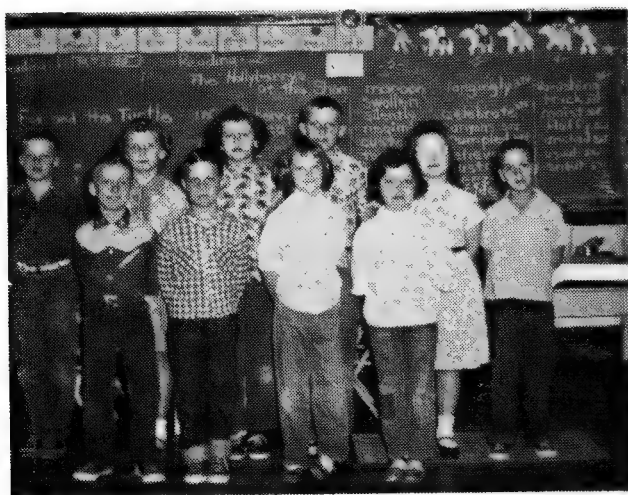


Miss Garnet Davidson taught the term of 1942-43 at Midway. These are her seven pupils: Miss Davidson is standing in the back, in front of her are Richard Marhenke, Robert Marhenke, Charley Novak and Kay Klaumann.

Front row: Esther Mae Bowman, Carl Marhenke and Donald Shepek. Picture is courtesy of Orel Davidson of Weber.

On Feb. 6, 1952, District 30 (Maple Grove) annexed to Midway District and the Board members were: Ernest H. Meyer, Reuben Coonrod, and Jesse G. Young. That fall Mrs. Hazel Mulch taught the combined schools. The Maple Grove building was used, having been moved to a more central location at the NE corner of Section 13 in Rose Creek Township. The Midway name and District 15 were retained. Board members for this new district were: Ernest Meyer, Jesse Young and Reuben Coonrod.

In 1955 this picture shows: Doug Gertis, Thetta



Zimmerman, Nancy Young, Billy Young, Joyce Coonrod, Kenny Coonrod, Tim Coonrod, Gary Shepek, Wanda Vaughn and Carol Shepek.

School was held here until 1959 when the patrons voted to annex to Narka Grade School. Dorothy Novotny was the last teacher. The last pupils were: Veronica Wilcox, Kenneth Hammerbacher, Lynn and Ivan Coonrod, Carol and Gary Shepek. Kenneth Coonrod, Larry and Charles Beeson. The last Board members were Charles Mach, Ernest Kvasnicka and Reuben Coonrod.

The building was purchased by Glenn Ramsbottom. It was torn down and the land returned to the farmstead.

According to a letter received from Luella Graham, "I have made a list of my teachers as I remember them, but that was 68 years ago; so I may not remember too well. My first teacher was: Millie Strand, 1907-08; Eliza Jotter, 1908-09; Roy Hunt, 1909-10; Alma Wales, 1910-11; Florence Arbuthnot, 1911-12; Tommie Denton, 1912-13; Eliza Wolfe-Harroun, 1913-14; Bertha Elliot; Jessie Patterson; Hazel Poole (cannot give dates); Alice Gooden, 1915-16".



#### DISTRICT 16 - GLEASON SCHOOL

District 16 Gleason School was organized on March 18, 1872 in the NE part of Fairview. The school district consisted of Sections 1, 2, 11, 12 approximately. This schoolhouse is one mile south and two east of Munden. (Picture courtesy of Ann Filing-Swiercinsky) When Miss Filing taught Gleason School in 1924-25, these were her students: Back row - Annie Rytych, Libbie Trzicky, Annie Blecha, Lucille Hener, Adelaide Blecha, Fred



Homolac, Glen Peters and George Trzicky. Seated in front: Mary Rytych, Lillian Homolac, Glen Peters, and George Trzicky. Seated in front: Mary Rytych, Lillian Homolac, Richard Trzicky, Teddy Gertz, Emil Peters, Joe Peters and Willie Trzicky.

Gleason School, District No. 16, was located in the southwest corner of the southwest quarter of section one in township two south of range no. two west of the 6 p.m. This is in Fairview Township and would be two miles east and one mile south of Munden, Kansas.

There is no record as to when the school first began. The official school district Clerk's Record Book was burned with all books and papers belonging to the clerk office after Joe Wranesky (clerk) died of smallpox. Only records available are those starting in 1879.

It is believed that the school got its name, Gleason, from the Gleason family. J. N. Gleason owned the land on which the schoolhouse stood. Possibly, he allowed the schoolhouse to stand on his land because the ground for the school was not purchased until in 1899. Also, the Gleasons had a very large family and probably wanted their children educated. There are no records available and no one seems to remember all the details.

Our first available records show C. Oscar Hinks—director; John Gleason—treasurer; and Albert Eisfeldt—clerk as the board members in August of 1879. The teacher was Fayette A. Smith with a salary of \$20.00. The term lasted only three months.

It is interesting to learn some of the expenses encountered from Nov. 1879 to Nov. 1902. A total of \$210.00 or an average of \$9.50 per year was spent for furniture. Also in the same period of time there was \$287.75 spent for coal which was an average of \$2.55 per month. In 1891, A. Eisfeldt received \$2.70 for building a privy—work \$2.00, nails, 50 cents, shingles 15 cents, and hook 5 cents.

In those early years school started at different times and ran for different lengths of time. In 1880 school began on Oct. 18th and ran for 5 months. In 1881 school began on Dec. 1st and ran for 5 months; in 1882 school began Dec. 4th and ran for 3 months. The reason for the late beginning was because of the fall harvest which needed to be completed before the children could be spared to go to school. Not until the corn was harvested could school expect to have very many pupils. Even then the attendance was very irregular. Many times there was no school held during the month of Dec. and Jan. because of the winter weather and lack of roads.

In 1884 and 1885 school lasted 5 months. 1893 found school starting for the first time in Sept. and lasted 6 months. The term lasted 7 months in 1896 with 3 months in the fall, December vacation month, and 4 months in the winter. In 1903 it was voted to teach 8 months if there was enough money in the treasury. Thus the years went—each different—depending on what each year brought.

The original Gleason schoolhouse was 16 feet by 20 feet. In July of 1905 it was moved to thoroughly repair or to build a new schoolhouse. On August 5, 1905, Joseph Plachy called the meeting to order because a petition signed by 14 of the 36 legal voters was presented asking the board to hold an election for the purpose of erecting a new schoolhouse. The election passed and a contract to build a new schoolhouse was made on Oct. 14, 1905 between O. O. Griffith of Munden, Kansas and the board members—C.

O. Hinks, John Rundus, Joseph Plachy.

Mr. Griffith was to build a 32' by 20' schoolhouse for the sum of \$600.00. It was to be ten feet from the foundation to the eaves. the framework was to be made of two by eight planks—two feet apart under the floor and toe-nailed to 2x4's laid along the middle under the planks. The studdings on the sides were to be 16 inches apart. The roof was to be a hip roof, half pitch, rafters 2 feet apart. There were to be three windows on each side and one door facing to the south. The contract was very much in detail. For \$600.00 Mr. Griffith was to do all the work, furnish all material on the place necessary for building, plastering, and etc. The building was to be completed by Dec. 18, 1905.

The new schoolhouse was completed on time and students came to school on Jan. 2, 1906. In the mean time, they had to attend different schools in the area until their new building was completed. Will Warren had the honor of being the first to teach in the new schoolhouse.

The old schoolhouse except the furniture and school fixtures was sold to Jerome Houdek for \$60.00 in Aug. 1905. However, the board failed to vote on the transaction so on Nov. 9, 1905 the old building was sold again. This time John Moravek was the high bidder and bought the building for \$65.50. Mr. Moravek moved the building to his farm one mile south and one-half mile east of Munden, Kansas. It was converted into a granary and to this day is still used for the same purpose by the Gerald Blazek family.

Pay was not very great in those early days. For example—Joseph Plachy was paid \$1.00 to scrub the floor, clear the grass and weeds from the schoolground and generally get the grounds and school ready for the new term. He was allowed to keep the hay off the grounds. Later this same job paid \$1.50.

In April 1912 it was voted to build a coal house but in June 1912 it was voted not to build the 8' by 12' coalhouse because there was not enough money. In time the new coalhouse was built and stood directly north of the schoolhouse. Many a game of "andy-over" was played over that building as well as over the schoolhouse. Once in awhile the ball went through the window instead of over the schoolhouse. Oh my! But there were no screens on the windows—so what could you expect?

Beside the school and coal shed, there were two privies. You always had to face that cold north wind—at least no one asked to leave the room unless they really had to. The grounds also had a flag pole and in later years a well. In the early years the pupils had to walk to the neighbors for water. My mother (Anna Peters Rytych) remembers walking for water.

The daily program consisted of reading, constitution, physiology, arithmetic and spelling in 1902-03. The number of subjects seems much less than now but the number of students per teacher was greater. In the years from 1881 to 1905 there was an average of 27 pupils per year. In 1897-1898 there were 32 pupils enrolled. In 1899 the pupils varied in age of 5 (Ella Saip) to 18 (Joe Gleason). In those days children went to school only when not needed at home. Therefore many pupils attended only a few days a term and thus could not be promoted.

Salaries of the teachers were very small. The year of 1879 paid \$20.00—1881-\$25.00 and in 1900-1901 the salary went to \$30.00, but in 1901-1902 it dropped to \$24.00. In 1906 W. Warren received \$40.00. The average cost per pupils in 1911-1912 was \$2.18.

As the years went on the school of Gleason became

noted for its box suppers. In 1926 the box supper proceeds were used to buy song books and a flag pole. In 1929 the proceeds went for a globe, balls, bats, and a flag. Also in 1929 a boys baseball team was organized and three games were matched. Gleason won two. In 1929-1930 a boys and girls Harmonica Orchestra and a character building club called the Gleason Loyals Club were organized.

The school never had any playground equipment. All the games played were ones usually involving some form of ball. Pump-pump-pull-away was a favorite as was hide-and-seek. There were not many places to hide, but there was a grader ditch on the west and on the south. Many a pupil lay flat on his stomach hoping not to be the first one found.

Most of Gleason's teachers taught for only one term and were replaced by a different teacher the following term. There have been a total of fifty-five teachers from 1879 to 1951. Only two teachers taught in Gleason for three terms. They were Victoria Tarkowski Peters from 1932-1935 and Ella Rytych Moravek from 1947-1950.

As the years went on the number of pupils became less and less. No one new moved into the district and the established residents had children grown and gone. From an all time high of thirty-two pupils in 1897 the number dropped to three pupils in 1941-1942. Finally the doors had to close for lack of enough students. In 1950-1951 there were seven pupils and Marilyn Brokesh Stark was the teacher. That was the last school term for Gleason School. On April 20, 1951 the school closed and the pupils went to other districts of their choice.

On May 1, 1954 Gleason disorganized. Voters voted to place their land in adjoining districts upon the Compulsory Disorganization of District 16 pursuant to House Bill No. 446 of 1953. Some of the land went to Bethlehem District and the Munden District No. 20. 5.9 percent of the tax money went to Bethlehem and 94.1 percent went to District No. 20.

A sale was held Dec. 9, 1954 at 2:00 p.m. to dispose of the school and all equipment. The schoolhouse brought \$355.00 and was bought by Ora Hinks. The two outhouses brought \$24.00 and \$26.00 and the coal house brought \$19.00. Total sale was \$513.86.

Thus came the end of another era and the beginning of a new one. No more would the people of District 16 get together on the last day of school and have a real down to earth soft-ball game; no more would the pupils ride their horse to school; no more would they go out in the meadow to sleigh ride and in the spring pick daisies; no more would each student feel as though each of them was as close as brothers and sisters. But progress is progress and things must change.

Written by Ella Rytych Moravek.

#### TEACHERS OF GLEASON DISTRICT 16

1879-1880—Fayette A. Smith  
 1880-1881—M. L. Canfield  
 1881-1882—Emma Andrews  
 1882-1883—Maggie Sohndener  
 1883-1884—Lulu Thompson  
 1884-1885—Lulu Thompson  
 1885-1886—Jessie Glenn  
 1886-1887—Joseph Boyes  
 1887-1888—H.E. Moore  
 1888-1889—H. E. Moore

1889-1890—A. R. Clarke  
 1890-1891—Stella Moore  
 1891-1892—Charles Bisiler  
 1892-1893—Walter Canfield  
 1893-1894—Rosa Skocdopole  
 1894-1895—Rosa Skocdopole  
 1895-1896—May Templin  
 1896-1896—Minnie Bowersox  
 1897-1898—Mabel Dale  
 1898-1899—Marie Strnad  
 1899-1900—Ray Wells  
 1900-1901—Verna Summers  
 1901-1902—Caroline Rundus  
 1902-1903—E. E. Zovoesky  
 1903-1904—Grace Hancock  
 1904-1905—Roysten Ellsworth  
 1905-1906—Will Warren  
 1906-1907—Charity Jensik  
 1907-1908—Anna Zavodsky  
 1908-1909—Ora Hinks  
 1909-1910—William D Pucket  
 1910-1911—Elizabeth Sorum  
 1911-1912—Alice Kramel  
 1912-1913—Edvie Shimanek  
 1913-1914—Edvie Shimanek  
 1914-1915—Edna Perkins  
 1915-1916—Irella Ferris  
 1916-1917—Irella Ferris  
 1917-1918—Geo. A. Filingier  
 1918-1919—Mollie Kuchera  
 1919-1920—Mollie Kuchera  
 1920-1921—Bvidine Henderson  
 1921-1922—Idella Ferris  
 1922-1923—Idella Ferris  
 1923-1924—Mary Filingier  
 1924-1925—Anne Filingier  
 1925-1926—Anne Filingier  
 1926-1927—Mary Nault  
 1927-1928—Mary Nault  
 1928-1929—Gladys Peters  
 1929-1930—Gayle Moravek  
 1930-1931—Anna Rundus  
 1931-1932—Ethel Pentico  
 1932-1933—Victoria Tarkowski  
 1933-1934—Victoria Tarkowski  
 1934-1935—Victoria Tarkowski  
 1935-1936—Glenn W. Peters  
 1936-1937—Glenn W. Peters  
 1937-1938—Ruby Cossaart  
 1938-1939—Ruby Cossaart  
 1939-1940—Agnes Reed  
 1940-1941—Norma Stransky  
 1941-1942—Norma Stransky  
 1942-1943—Helen Brosh  
 1943-1944—Ferne D. Murphy  
 1944-1945—Ferne D. Murphy  
 1945-1946—Juanita Murphy  
 1946-1947—Betty Strnad  
 1947-1948—Ella Rytych  
 1948-1949—Ella Rytych  
 1949-1950—Ella Rytych  
 1950-1951—Marilyn Brokesh

Some schoolboard members of District 16. 1879, C. Vskar Hinks D; John Gleason T; Albert Eisfeldt C; 1880, Erik Ljung, T; 1881, Wesley Shimanek, T; 1882, Alois

Nesitril, D; 1884, F. P. McNiel, C; 1894, A. J. Hovak, C; 1898, John Jehlik, D; 1899, J. S. Wranosky, T; 1901, G. L. Houdek, D; 1902, B. F. Rundus, C; 1904, C. O. Hinks, D; 1905, Jos. Plachy, T; 1912, W. H. Perkins, C; 1938-1939, E. R. Hinks, D; Joe Brokesh, C; O. J. Homalac, T; 1942, John Peters, D; 1947, Glenn Lesovsky, T.



1899-1900, Ray Wells, teacher. Pupils were: Ora Hinks, Emma Gleason, Bert Ford, Eddie Hinks, Joe Gleason, Anna Houdek, Anna Shimanek, John Gleason, Sophia Saip, Hedvika Shimanek, Christina Horak, Helen Nenets, Emma Saip, Henry Horak, Anna Saip, George Jehlik, Ella Saip, Carl Jehlik, Frank Saip, Blanche Strnad, George Saip. Maud Hinks, Joe Saip. Rosa Shulda, Mary Saip, Eddie Shulda, Mary Chop, Joe Shulda, Harvey Gleason, Oscar Shulda.



Picture of the original Gleason School. School in background on left hand side as it looked after being converted into a granary. At this time it was being used by the Lewis Rizek family.



Side and front view as it looks now on the Gerald Blazek farm.

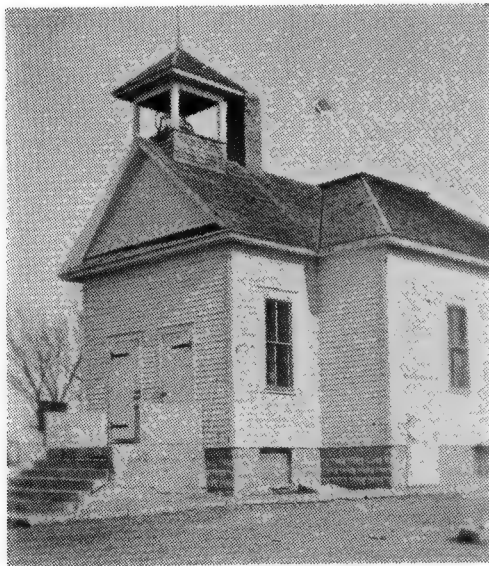


1939 last day softball team. Back row: George Trzicky, George Rytych, Bill Trzicky, Helen Rytych, Wayne Bowers, Lotti Trzicky, Joy Bowers. Middle row: Don Hinks, Henry Trzicky, Johnny Popelka, Stella Popelka, Emma Trzicky. Front row: Charles Homolac, Luie Verley, Frank Popelka.





The second building built in 1905. Gleason school materials were compiled by Mrs. Bon Morvaek, Munden.



#### DISTRICT 17—ODELL SCHOOL

From 1870-1954 Dist. No. 17 was located in Freedom township which lies in the center of Republic County, east and west. It was settled and improved and is the third ward of the city of Belleville being located within its boundaries.

The first school was taught by Mrs. Albert Odell at her residence on the southwest quarter  $\frac{1}{4}$  section 29, in the winter of 1870, 3 months for \$30. This was a subscription school prior to the district organization on March 28, 1872.

Later a school was constructed, a combination of a dugout and sod similar to other schools at this time. In 1872 Mrs. Louisa Couchman taught for 25 days for \$12.50. Mrs. Couchman taught several different periods between 1871 and 1880. During one of her terms she organized a singing school. The pupils trudged to the school house in the evenings to sing and learn more about music.

In 1872 E. T. Neal taught for 2 months for \$25 per month. In 1872 Mrs. Louisa Couchman taught for 3 months for \$16.66 per month. In 1872 Edwin H. Lyon taught for 4

months for \$30 per month. In 1872 E. T. Neal 3 mo. for \$30 per month. In 1875 Sarah Sherwood Schrof taught 3 mo. for \$25 per mo. In 1876 Mrs. Louisa Couchman 3 mo. for \$15 per mo. and in 1877 Sarah Sherwood Schrof 3 mo. for \$25 per mo.

In 1877 the district was organized. This was the first district to be organized in the township and was taught by the Rev. Albert Odell. The school was named Odell for Rev. Odell who gave the land for the new school building which was erected at this time. One day the pupils got all enthused and decided to improve the school grounds. They all brought a little tree to plant. One pupil brought a willow and it was the only tree still living in 1935.

In 1882 Arther Crawdell taught for 3 mo. and Mrs. Ella Odell taught from 1882-1884 in 2 and 3 month terms. In Mrs. Odell's records a teacher's memorandum was found, "School opened with an attendance of 21, scholars were classified and a unified set of text books-have been prompt to study very readily." Also in her report the attendance by May had risen to 30-June to 39. In 1884 school opened with good attendance and by 1885 the average attendance was 25.

Levies and taxation from 1882 to 1908 varied from  $1\frac{3}{4}$  to 2 mills. In 1885 the school house was remodeled inside. Tar paper was put on and sealed over and painted. New seats and a stove were bought making it more comfortable for the pupils. A new blackboard was made from pine boards and painted over with liquid slating.

A place to tie old Dobbin was built at the west side of the yard. It was made of a log chain passed through holes in the posts.

The coal used was hauled by team from Seapo 12 miles south of town and seemed quite a distance then.

The furniture in this school besides the teacher's desk consisted of an organ and an organ box, an old homemade box used to keep the organ in when not in use. Also a large seat was built and was used to hold the large maps.

During these years the school terms were divided into short periods of from two to six months, each depending on finances. In 1894 the district made a change in the school term and decided on an eight month school term. F. R. Bachelor was hired to teach the full term with an enrollment of 51 pupils, salary \$37.50 per mo. This plan continued through the years. The first school board members that we can find a record of were George R. Bundy, sr., Albert Myers, and O. P. Johnson in 1894-1895 when Frank R. Bachelor was the teacher.

Later on addition of twelve feet was added to enlarge the school building by cutting the building into at the center and adding on from there. Kerosene lamps were then in use and were suspended from the ceiling and some fastened to the walls. An eighth grade commencement was once held in this building. The class consisted of 5 pupils from Odell and other schools.

Miss Edna Elliot taught Odell School in 1909-10 with 40 pupils on the roll. The graduates that year were Charles Swiercinsky, Ernest Sanford, Dorothy Milner, Ada Bailey and Ruby Davis. Miss Elliot is still living, 91 years old at this writing, and lives in California.

More shade trees were later planted and grew to be fine trees which made an excellent setting for the new school house which the community thought would be the proper thing as the district was becoming more prosperous. New Bonds were voted and the old school building was sold for \$147 and a new building was finished

by October 1914. With Miss Edythe Lowell at the helm the scene changed but the memories linger on. New seats were bought, a flag decorated the front wall with another one floating in the breeze above the roof. A furnace in the basement was the new heating system, some new sidewalks were added, the old hitching chain is gone as has "old Dobbin" with the advent of the "Ford".

About this time a Farmer's Union was organized in Freedom Township and Odell was chosen as the meeting place. This organization added several new improvements, the gas lamps replaced the kerosene lamps, the old organ made way for a piano, a cupboard full of dishes, stove, tables and chairs were added to the basement to make the social affairs more sociable and in later years the pupils fixed hot lunches.

Many happy hours were spent in social and school entertainments at Odell.

On October 15, 1954 Odell school was closed and annexed to Union Valley district. Edna Ann Anderson Henry was the last teacher to teach Odell, in 1953-54, with an enrollment of 8 pupils and a salary of \$2400 for the term. 1953-54, school board members were, O. J. Wilber, Leonard Swiercinsky and Joe Heyka, Frank Kelly replaced Leonard Swiercinsky in 1954 and served until the school was disorganized in October, 1954.

#### STOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT 18

Stover school district is located in Big Bend Township west of Republic, Kansas, section 29, 30, 31 and 32 T. 1 Range 5W.

The first school was taught by Miss May Chryster in a dugout, dug by Amos Rice in the bank of the creek just south of the present school building. The school was organized July 8, 1872. S. G. Stover, who had homesteaded section 29, gave a few acres in the corner of his land for the school, and the school was named Stover in his honor. After a few years a frame building was erected and used until it burned and was replaced by a fine new larger one in 1925. This building is still standing although there has been no school there for several years. It was, however, one of the last schools to be closed. (Picture courtesy of Orel Davidson, taken when his sister Garnet taught there and their mother, Mrs. Myrtie Davidson visited.)



The school board members of the first district were: Samuel Stover, clerk and C. A. Lowe, treasurer. Another early teacher was Miss Anna Byers, who had come to the White Rock vicinity with her brother, James Byers and his family from Iowa to take a land claim. Anna taught the school for four months at \$30 a month in 1873, in 1874 she married Samuel Morlan.

In 1887 and 1888 C. A. Palmer was the teacher. The term began on October 3, 1887 and ended April 3, 1888. Thirty-nine pupils were enrolled in ages from six to nineteen and all grades. In 1888 and 1889 Mr. Palmer was again the teacher with an enrollment of thirty-five. School was in session this term from Oct. 1, 1888 to March 15, 1889.

In 1894 and 1895 Retta McPherrren taught for six months for \$35 a mo. T. McCuen, S. F. Aurand, and T. A. Lowe were the board members.

Mrs. Marjorie Longfellow Smith of Superior, Nebr. a former pupil and former teacher of Stover sent this old picture of the old frame building and the teacher and pupils. The picture was taken in 1904 as nearly as she knew. The teacher was Miss Bessie Barker. Her salary was \$45 permonth. One of the little fellows in the front row was Mrs. Smith's older brother, Leigh Longfellow. We could not find the records of the names of the other pupils.



Mrs. Twila Morley-Horkman recalls happy times at Stover when she went to school in 1927. Miss Ruth Mead was her much-loved teacher and these were her schoolmates: Back row, left to right: Elmer Van Nortwick, Ilaff Banks, Christopher and Willie Mitcher. Second row: Donald McAllen, Barbara Johnson, Vada Banks, a girl and Alberta Roberts. Third row: Twila Morley and Robert Megette. Front row: a girl, Lucille Johnson and Gladys Hall.

From The Hastings (Nebr.) Tribune May 2, 1960)

Howdy. . . There is a rural school near here where such terms as "an educational adventure" and "enriched curriculum" come alive.

People here simply say their school is a "a bit different".

The difference is hard to pinpoint. Perhaps it might be

termed the "three R's ala mode. Although the school functions within the framework of a standard course of study, there are many extras outside the framework.

The curriculum is something of which educators dream but seldom see. The teacher was trained for high school. Students are a study in human relations.

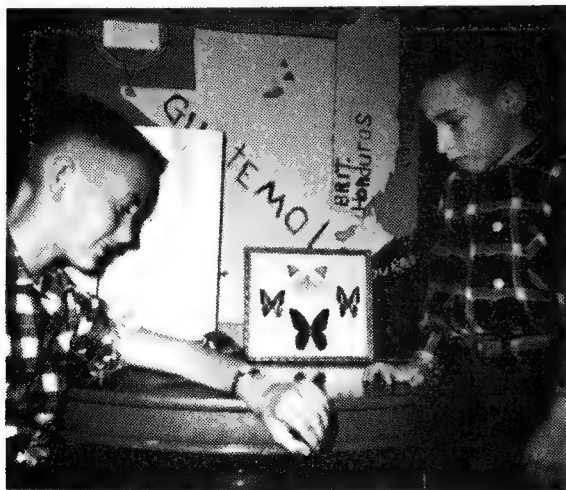
Take the curriculum of Stover School, located five miles south of Hardy in Kansas. The school, taught by Mrs. Marjorie Smith, is probably the only one in either South Central Nebraska or Northern Kansas, both rural and town, where elementary students study a foreign language.



Students begin studying Spanish in the first grade and continue throughout their eight years at Stover. They concentrate on vocabulary and learn to count and sing in Spanish.

The school has Spanish records and a tape recorder so students can practice their pronunciation and accents.

Science merges from textbook theory to a sharp point of practical reality. This year students raised a small garden in the school yard to study plant growth and soil conservation. All students collect rocks and insects.



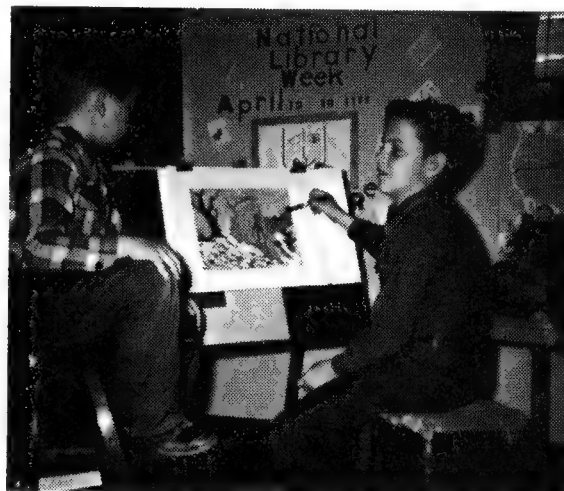
Highlighting the science program in a science fair. This year students prepared 40 exhibits, ranging from

electricity projects to a study of two garter snakes. Dr. L. Dean Bark, climatologist in the physics department at Kansas State University, spent an entire day at the fair.



Even such basic subjects as reading, writing and arithmetic are presented to set them apart from routine academics. The students are encouraged to "become the characters" in what they read and write and drama is provided students."

Part of this is the Stover Journal, school newspaper published monthly. All students are staff members. The newspaper is used as a tool in teaching, reading and writing.



The library largely is composed of books which noted children's authors autograph and send, along with a personal note, to the "little Stoverites," Mrs. Smith said students try to reach "high standards set by these authors."

Apparently they come pretty close. Extremely courteous and respectful toward each other, students may visit among themselves instead of rushing out to play at the noon hour. Mrs. Smith said each student is boosting the other.

There is one "student" who adds a special flavor. She is Mei Ling, Mrs. Smith's Pekingese dog, listed as a "special education student". Treated as an equal by students, Mei Ling sleeps during the school days. A small child mentioned the fact once when students appeared on a radio program being broadcast from the University of Kansas.

"I was flabbergasted," Mrs. Smith related. "Somehow I blurted out that Mei Ling is a Chinese who





sleeps through Spanish class."

What makes the school tick as it does. "We let children progress at their own rate within their own ability," Mrs. Smith said.

This unique group maintains regular correspondence with Elizabeth Coatsworth an author of some 40 children's books and Newberry Medal Winner. They have a "Coatsworth Corner" in the school room.



Picture of Stover School 18 in 1959, Mrs. Marjorie Smith, teacher. Pupils (not in order of the picture): Patricia Ann Gunn, Richard Stenson, Loisann Tuley, Samuel Clark, Jerald File, Carla Steier, John Clifford Hobson, Debra Tuley, Steven Gunn, Dennis Sweet, Cathy Steier, Gayle Elaine Gunn, Dennis Lauritzen.

In 1962 Rosemound 229 was annexed to Stover No. 18 on July 3, 1962.

The 1962 and 1963 term was the last year that Stover had school. Mrs. Gwendolyn Holly of Narka was the teacher., with an enrollment of eleven pupils: Belinda Gunn, James File, John Gunn, Scott Hobson, Harrell Roe, Debra File, Leon Hobson, Patricia Gunn, Richard Stenson, Jerry File and Clifford Hobson. The board members were Charles Gunn, Joe Stenson and Merle File.

In the fall of 1963 most of the pupils went to District 63 Republic, and continued to do so, and in 1967 all the districts were unified to District 227 with Republic as the attendance center for that part of the county. In 1975 most of the grades had closed at Republic except kindergarten and the first two grades. The grade school and high school students went to Belleville, Courtland and to Byron, Nebr. as a matter of choice.

The little school house stands a silent reminder of the happy days there and a landmark of the early days in Republic county.

Prepared by Muriel Reed Tallent. Some material from Mrs. Marjorie Smith and pictures, Superior. Help from Elsie McMannama, Republic.

## DISTRICT 19—BETHLEHEM

The Bicentennial year of 1976 reminds each of us of the many changes that have developed over the years. Changes of people, places and things that are visible to the eye. There too are ever changing sounds that can be heard by those that live in this rural farming community.

A low flying airplane that is crop dusting. A diesel fueled tractor preparing ground for fall seeding. A jet pump kicking in to furnish water for livestock. The sonic boom of a jet breaking the sound barrier.

Yet, there is an absence of a round that was familiar to many families during a span of the past one hundred years—The clang of the school bell of District 19, Narka, Kansas, The Bethlehem School. Shall we reminisce a bit?

## 1873 School Meeting

Old timers often referred to District 19 as the Blecha

## RECORD OF DISTRICT BOARD AND SCHOOL MEETINGS.

Agreement made this 18<sup>th</sup> day of August 1873 between the Board of School Dist No 19 Republic Co Kansas of the first part & fluid of Birmingham Township builder of the second part the said party of the second part agree to & with said party of the first part to make erect build & finish ready for teaching in a good substantial & workmanlike manner on the S. W. corner of S. E. 1/4 of Sec 2, T. 2, R. 1, Republic Co Kansas one home school house agreeable & according to the plan draft & explanation here to annexed of each materials by said party of the first part may furnish therefor by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of October 1873 & the said party of the first part agrees to pay unto the said party of the second part for the same the sum of fifty seven dollars as follows the sum of ten dollars when the frame is up & the balance when said building is completed & also the party of the first part will furnish the necessary materials for said work in such reasonable quantities & at such reasonable times as said party of the second part shall require & for the performance of the above agreement the party of the second part binds himself to party of the first part in the sum of one hundred dollars in witness whereof the parties to these presents hereunto set their hands the day & year first above written



school. Its location was bordered on the west by Charlie Blecha land that was homesteaded by his father Wesley Blecha. Across the road south was the Blecha pasture.

As years went by District 19 was called Bethlehem. It, like so many rural schools of that era, was the social gathering place of pioneer families. This included Sunday School and Church. No doubt there is a religious significance to its name.

# REGISTER OF ORDERS DRAWN ON

DATE	TO WHOM PAYABLE	FROM WHAT FUND	AMOUNT	
			Dollars	Cts.
1 Dec 1877	M. C. Lee	Teachers	29	00
2 Jan 1878	M. C. Lee	Teachers	29	00
3 Jan 1878	M. C. Lee	Teachers	18	75
4 Jan 1878	M. C. Lee	Teachers	33	25
5 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Incidental	6	00
6 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Incidental	3	75
7 Jan 1878	O. Miller	Teachers	50	00
8 Jan 1878	M. C. Lee	Incidental	4	25
9 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Incidental	1	00
10 Jan 1878	O. Miller	Teachers	38	00
11 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Incidental	12	00
12 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Teachers	24	75
13 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Teachers	40	00
14 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Incidental	2	00
15 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Teachers	22	50
16 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Teachers	22	50
17 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Teachers	30	00
18 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Incidental	95	00
19 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Teachers	20	00
20 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Incidental	8	50
21 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Teachers	1	25
22 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Teachers	10	00
23 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Teachers	20	00
24 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Incidental	3	00
25 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Teachers	24	00
26 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Teachers	24	00
27 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Incidental	40	00
28 Jan 1878	J. S. Lee	Teachers	7	00

## 1876-1880 Register of Order

Continuing orders to 1888 record fourteen teachers with salaries from twenty to thirty dollars monthly.

There was a wide variation as to the length and the time of the school term. Much depended upon how badly these children were needed at home.

The financial situation of the district played a big role as the following record denotes.

### Little White Schoolhouse

Country schools are friendly places. . .

No big buildings with classic graces  
Just something small and trim and white,  
Glowing with warmth and wisdoms light.

The teacher loves the kids and guides

Tho' sometimes she could tan their hides.

Out in the yard there is a swing or two,

Maybe the pupils here are few. . .

And as they play and frolic daily

Over their heads the flag flies gaily.

Yes, country schools with friendly faces,

Always seem like happy places.

Marion Johnson

## RECORD OF DISTRICT BOARD AND SCHOOL MEETINGS.

Annual Meeting of School Dist. No. 19, County of Republic, Mo. held pursuant to call at School House in said District on the 10th day of Aug 1877.  
Mr. J. E. Smith, Chairman.  
It was voted to have four months winter school to commence the first of October 1877.  
It was voted to pay each teacher \$29 per month and incidental expenses.  
It was also voted to repair the School House.  
The sum of three dollars was voted to the clerk for his services to the Directors for consideration for business for the year.  
J. E. Smith was elected Clerk.  
Wesley Blecha was elected Director.  
Wesley Blecha was elected Treasurer.

Annual Meeting of S. D. No. 19 County of Republic State of Kansas was held pursuant to call at School House in said District on the 10th August 1878.

It was voted 1/3 of Teachers fund and 1/3 of school for incidental expenses.  
W. Blecha elected Director.  
John Paulick elected Clerk.  
Wesley Blecha Treasurer.  
Each officer was voted 3 dollars for services.  
The school to be carried on as long as the money held out.  
J. Paulick



By 1898 the picture denotes the little white schoolhouse had been occupied by many. Notice the missing siding as well as the woodpecker holes.

Names of pupils given by Joe Slavik and Lottie Holecek of the Bel View Manor. These are some of the names they remember. Edna Gim, Mary Vecera, John Vecera, Kate Gim, Richard Bazant, Tillie Peter, Betsy Houdek, Harry Hole, Ed Kvasnicka, Stella Bazant, 2 Kouba girls, Barbara Knedlik, Anna Kvasnicka, Ben Gim, Alice Wales, Elmer Kvasnicka, Joe Sedlacek, Joe Bazant, Alma Woles, Grace Bazant, Sherman Hale, John Vecera, Roy Hale.

Joe Slavik is standing by the right side of the door and



Lotti Lahodny Holechek is the fourth girl in the front row.

Around the turn of the century the first Bethlehem had outgrown its usefulness as a school.

As a young child, Carrie (Plachy) Lahodny, Cuba, recalls when the building was moved to their farm southeast of Munden, that is presently owned by Henry Strnad. A team of horses as well as a team of mules pulled the old schoolhouse. It had been placed on long timbers that in turn were secured on wagon wheels. It was moved to its present location and is currently used as a storage bin for grain.



April 7, 1908 Grace Bazant, teacher

Can you imagine the patience it took to photograph these twenty-nine Bethlehem boys and girls dressed in their Sunday best?

Back row: Joe Bazant, Rose Kouba, Mary Kouba, Jennie Fulton, Blanche Horak, Mary Kasha, Lewis Kasha, Caroline Kouba, Bill Nemec, George Fulton.

Second from back: Sophia Strnad, Matilda Chermak, Charlie Kasper, Ernest Jensik, Grace Bazant, Frances Kouba, Annie Kouba, Jimmy Fulton.

Third from back: Maudie Fulton, Ed Lahodny, Charlie Chermak, Frank Kasper, Charlie Fulton, John Strnad.

Front row: Emma Kasper, Elsie Horak, Anna



Marsicek, Gustie Marsicek, Louise Strnad, Joey Hynek.

Teachers from far and near continued to teach Bethlehem. Many could recall identical stories. The condition of the roads played a real role in rural transportation. Walking was the sure way! There were



dependable horses, farm trucks, family cars, and sturdy jeeps. One pioneer teacher rode his bicycle from Munden.

Each and every teacher remembers sick children at school. Often times a child was just shy, lonesome or scared. Or maybe he could not communicate with fellow schoolmates because he spoke another language. That was reason enough to become ill. A teacher could always depend upon the runny nose, constant coughing and hacking of the common cold. A swelling back of the ears—is it just a swollen gland or could it be the mumps? Or maybe a stomach ache! Has he eaten too many of those green apples or could it be appendicitis? That red rash on the chest and neck meant just one thing—measles. And there were always those hands, feet, nose, and ears that had been exposed to too much cold. Snow rubbed over the area was the remedy even though it brought tears. Many childhood diseases have been conquered over the years due to constant research in medical science, thus eliminating some worries for the present day teachers regarding the health of their pupils.

#### It's Different Now

Kids nowadays don't have sore throat,

They'd be quite out of step

To call it such a common name.

They always call it strep!

They're rushed off to a doctor  
And given shots and such,  
And fed on liquid for awhile,  
And worried over much.

Now Grandma's plan was not the same  
She'd just grease 'em for a spell  
With plain old turpentine and lard,  
And by golly  
They'd get well

Pansye Powell author

Skipping to a lighter note, District 19 history reminds us that many of the teachers were young and especially attractive. Naturally the young fellows in the area made it a point to meet the new school marm. She was no doubt boarding with a nearby family, perhaps a member of the school board. Although marriage meant losing her job, a young teacher did not turn down her young man when he popped the question. After courtship and marriage, the young couple often continued to live in areas close by.

Depression years brought as many as twenty applicants to teach our school. It was not uncommon for a young teacher to be lured to another school for a \$2.50 raise. Those were the years little girls' school dresses and boys' shirts were made from feed sacks. Do you remember the pretty valentines the children made from wallpaper catalogs that a thoughtful dealer had donated? Or how excited the kids were then there was so much dust in the air the gas lamps had to be lit so studies could continue.

The years of World War II brought conditions that were exactly opposite. There was a real scarcity of good dependable people to guide the young ones in the Bethlehem district. The young men were in the Armed Forces and many teachers and potential teachers were working at jobs that were associated with the service. This was the era when busy homemakers that had formerly taught school came to the rescue. Luckily, Bethlehem continued to operate thanks to Mrs. Helen Filipi who taught there three terms. Her son Frank started his teaching career at the same school in 1953.

Too often the school board of country schools are the unsung heroes, so to speak. They always included interested, concerned and dedicated people. Their job was an important one. Records show that Charlie Blecha held his job 35 years. John Chopp 16 years, B. M. Strand, 20 years, and Earl Knedlik 18 years. Ernest Jensik 20 years.

These last day of school pictures bring pleasant memories.



Knedlik, Kasper, Sedlacek, Morgan, Kunc, Blecha, Homolac, and Strnad, Emma Houdek Morovek, teacher, 1925.



Blecha, Morgan, Kasper, Knedlek, Kunc, and Mrkvicka, Thelma Evans Chopp, teacher. 1924.



Piroutek, Strnad, Knedlik, Blecha, Jensik, Chopp, and Chermak, Joan Jensik Tibbetts, teacher. 1946.



Slavik, Chopp, Strnad, Jensik, and Knedlik, LouAnn Graham, teacher. 1950.

#### The Perfect Day

I hurried all the way to school  
I took my seat so fine,  
I studied all my spelling words  
An' never missed a time.

I never whispered even once  
Nor threw a paper dart  
I copied down my English  
Till I knew it all by heart.

I cleaned my boots at recess time  
 I didn't drag my feet  
 I never asked if I could sit  
 With Jim, or speak to Pete.

I was just perfect all day long.  
 I never broke a rule—  
 But a fella's always extra good  
 On the last day of school James Montague, author

Old records indicate there were students from three generations of the same family in this district 19, names that are still familiar in this community.

1. First, Charlie Blecha 2., Second, Gladys Blecha Shara. 3. third, Lorene Shara Webber  
 3. third, Charles Shara  
 1., first, Frank Kasper.  
 2., second, Louis Kasper.  
 3., third, Alvin Kasper, Esther Kasper.  
 1., first, Mike Knedlik  
 2nd, Earl Knedlik  
 3. Michael C. Knedlik  
 3. Sue Knedlik Walker  
 2nd Charles Knedlik  
 3. Larry E. Knedlik  
 3. Carol Knedlik Murphy  
 1st, Joe Kasper  
 2nd. Frank Kasper  
 3rd, Irene Kasper JuneK  
 No doubt there are others.

#### The Country Teacher

Small credit does she ever get;  
 Recompense that's smaller yet.  
 But she must know how mushrooms grow.  
 What causes autumn winds to blow  
 What shape Halloween witches are,  
 Where the next town is, and just how far.  
 How much Louisiana cost  
 Where to find a cap that's lost.  
 How to bind a skinned up knee,  
 Where are Mercury and Middle C. . .  
 To have such wisdom from sky to sod,  
 A teacher certainly must know God. Dreibellrs, author



Chopp, Morgan, Kasper, Adams, Knedlik, Pressnall, Kunc, Markvicka, Strnad and Blecha.



Kasper, Homolac, Strnad, Knedlik, Chadwick, Chermak



Knedlik, Strnad, Chopp, Jensik, Chermak, and Shulda



Chermak, Knedlik, Slavik, Strnad, Chopp and Piroutek



Piroutek, Slavik, Knedlik, Chermak, Strnad, Blazek, Peters, Chopp





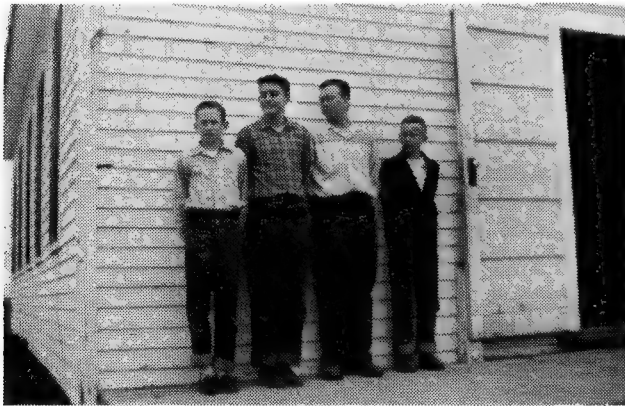
Piroutek, Knedlik, Peters, Blazek, Chermak, Strnad, Kasper.

Many professions and vocations are represented by those that began their education in this one room country school. Homemakers, Farmers and Stockmen, Lawyers, Nurses and Nurses Aides, Secretaries, Real Estate, Business Men and Women, Sales Persons, Teachers, Artists, Army and Navy Careers, Civil Service Employees, Mechanics, Lay Ministers, Community minded people in general.

There were those that were Bethleem students that later returned as teachers. Alma Wailes, Grace Bazant, Bert Strnad and Joan Jensik Tibbetts.

Sadly, the war years took their toll and many of the bright young faces never returned to take their places in the community.

The enrollment at District 19 was declining. By 1958 there were nine students. Alvin Kasper, 1st grade; Carol Knedlik, 4th grade; Clarice Peters, 4th grade; Esther Kasper, 4th grade; Louis Slavek, 7th grade.



Four of those nine were in the eighth grade.

Eugene Peters, Munden, a Kansas State graduate that has made farming his profession. His father and grandfather, before him, too had occupied his home and farmed the land.

Dennis Pirotek, Smith Center, a Vocational school graduate that is a machinist with American Auto Parts.

Roger Strnad, Munden, a third generation farmer and stockman living on the place his father and grandfather had made their home.

Larry Knedlik, Kansas State graduate employed with General Motors in Saginaw, Michigan.



It was not easy to secure a teacher and it seemed as if Bethlehem would have to close.

Finally, after much consideration and thought, Lucille Pressnall consented to teach this last year. She did not have to be reminded that snow banks blocked the roads in winter and spring rains brought mud.

The pupils were aware that this was the last year for Dist. 19 but it did not alter their good times. A highlight at the end of the year was a ball game between Albion and Bethlehem.

It was voted to disorganize Bethlehem school on July 1, 1961 with fifteen affirmative and two negative votes.

Most of the Area was annexed to Dist. 223 Narka and the remainder to Munden Dist. 20 and Eureka Dist. 11.

Bill of sale August 11, 1961. Two toilets and \$7, \$14.00; coal house \$32.00; schoolhouse \$210.00; bill sold to Van Lew \$21.00.

The Bethlehem schoolhouse continues its usefulness as a machine shop on the original Strnad home place.



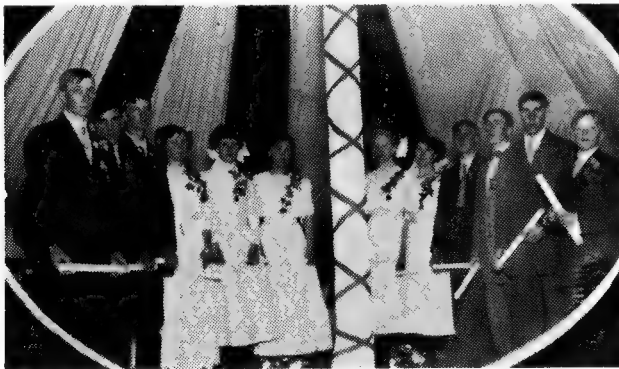
Back row: Joe Kuckera, Mable Bobenhouse, H. M. Carmean, Mary Hanel, Charles Filinger, Blanche Strnad. Front row: Thursa Ramsbottom, Willie Throme, Miss Adams, Timothy Strnad, Adolf Moravek

It was not a common event, in early years, to graduate from the eighth grade. Blanche (Strnad) Horak, Munden was the very first pupil to complete eight years of guidance and study at Bethlehem. The 1910 Commencement program showed, at this early age, her thoughts were enclined to beauty and creativity. "The Value of a Blossom" entitled her original speech. The

"March Albion"	- - -	Munden Band.
Invocation	- - -	Rev. S. Barber.
"General Schuyler, The True Patriot"	- - -	Joe Strunc.
"The Value of a Blossom"	- - -	Blanche Strnad.
"Silvery Thistle"—E. Fetterer—Piano Solo	- - -	Mable Bobenhouse.
"Tumbleweeds"	- - -	Willie Throne.
"Luck and Pluck"	- - -	H. M. Carmean.
"Forward"—Quartette—Messrs. Morey, Strnad, Kuchera and Rashleigh.	- - -	
"Things to Forget"	- - -	Thursa Ramsbottom.
"Our Anti-Slavery Leaders"	- - -	Timothy Strnad.
"Yesterday and Tomorrow"—Duet—Misses Mildred Houdek and Ruby McCall.	- - -	
"Evolution of a Boy's Ideas"	- - -	Adolf Moravek.
"Debtors"	- - -	Charles Fillingier.
"Valse Ventaine"—Ringlet—Mrs. Hill and Miss Houdek.	- - -	
"Comets"	- - -	Dean Carpenter.
"Value of the Study of History"	- - -	Mary Hanel.
"Friendship"—Quartette—Messrs. Morey, Strnad, Kuchera and Rashleigh.	- - -	
"American Humorists"	- - -	Joe Kuchera.
Presentation of Diplomas	- - -	Supt. Slopansky.
"Face to Face" Bass Solo	- - -	Mr. Wm. Rashleigh.
Benediction	- - -	Rev. S. Barber.

Class motto "Success means Labor and Honor" is one that may be applied to any generation.

This group of young people, as well as family and friends from Munden, Ida, Beck and Tabor communities were especially proud as they received their diplomas. The Munden Methodist church was not yet complete. The 1910 eighth grade class received their diplomas in this huge decorated tent.



Other children of the B. W. Strnad family followed in Blanche's footsteps by completing their eight years of grade school at Bethlehem.

Back row: Josephine Smyschny, Sophia Strnad, Mary Kasha, Alma Wailles, teacher, Frank Kasper, John Strnad, Charles Chermak, James Fulton, Ernest Jensik.

Middle Row: Unknown, Sylvia Smyschny, Daisy Woods, Emma Kasper, Viola Woods, Woods girl, Louise Strnad, Stella Knedlik, Amelia Kasper, Allie Svoboda.

Front row: Frank Knedlik, Ed Svoboda, Bedrich (Bert) Strnad, unknown, Joe Hynek, Bohumil (Bill) Strnad.

The two younger boys Ludvik and Victor complete the



list of B. W. Strnad graduates.

The third generation of Strnads, children of Bill and Lois, along with others in the surrounding area can say, "I too graduated from Bethlehem." It was time to grab a lunch pail and that home assignment when that bell rang at eight thirty.

The father of the eight Strnad children passed away shortly after school was disorganized. The bell that had rung over a span of many years was purchased by Mrs. Bill Strnad and her children, Betty, Billy, Glen, Patsy, Shirley, Henry, Mary and Roger from Mills Antiques, Belleville in memory of their husband and father.

Listen! There is a familiar sound—the friendly sound of a bell that rung for years from the Bethlehem school belfry. It is coming from the Munden Presbyterian Church where it may be heard by many including Blanche Strnad Horak and Roger Strnad. A span of almost 50 years has elapsed between the first graduate of District 19 and one of four from the last class.

May this bell continue to ring! To remind each of us of the precious heritage we have of our Ancestors, our Church and our Country.

#### TEACHERS OF BETHLEHEM SCHOOL District 19 1876-1958

1876-77	M. See
1878-79	Ottillie Slopansky
1879-80	Seward Bunely & Cynthia A. See and Ella De Laittre
1880-81	Fayette A. Smith and John W. Fop
1881-82	Frank Brooks and Ella V. Hall and M. L. Andrews
1883	E. S. Sheldon, Henry Bartel, M. J. Andrews Dar Schevender and Lange Slopansky
1886	M. J. Rolle and Emma Andrews
1886-87	Harvey Templen
1887-88	A. L. Richardson
	No Accurate Record
	Chas. Rundus, Bessie Houdek Lang, Loren Wagner, Grace Bazant
1917-18	Ella Walthman
1918-19	Bessie Paulin
1919-20	Lela Bowersox
1920-22	Olive Euau
1922-23	Evelyn Schafer
1923-24	Thelma Evans
1924-25	Emma Houdek
1925-26	Helen Brosh
1926-27	Agnes Neubauer

1927-28-29 Emma McDowell  
Blanch Brabec  
1929-30 Lorna Vanous  
1930-31 Victoria Tarkouski  
1931-32 Bert Strnad  
1932-33 Dora Newton  
1933-35 Helen Lesovsky  
1935-37 Maxine Morey  
1937-38 Marvene Teeters  
1838-39 Margaret Lisher  
1939-40 Maxine Morey  
1940-41 Marvel Deyo  
1941-42 Dorothy Bonar  
1942-45 Mrs. Helen Filipi  
1945-47 Joan Jensek  
1947-49 Doris Chopp  
1949-50 Lou Ann Graham  
1950-51 Donna Mach  
1951-53 Joyce Marsicek  
1953-57 Frank J. Filipi  
1957-58 Lucille Pressnall

We are indebted to Blanche Horak, Knedlik, Slavik, and Strnad families for this report.

#### MUNDEN DISTRICT 20

Mrs. Charles Hanzlick relates these facts in her account of the early history of the Munden School 20. The homesteaders of this vicinity in the year 1869-70 decided to organize a school district and build a school. Since the Homestead Law did allow a tax to be levied against property which had not been transferred completely to the homesteading owners—it was decided at a meeting to build a school on a corner one mile south of Munden on the NE¼ of Sec. 9 on land donated by the Houdeks. Since there was no timber available the community secured timber from friends and relatives on Mill Creek, to build under the roof and for the supports above the door and windows. One of the older residents used his oxen and breaking plow to break the sod which was used for walls and roof. Door and window openings were left open as there was no cash on hand to buy them.

Since this school building was so well ventilated it was necessary to hold school during the summer months of June, July, and Aug. 1871. This school was a subscription or tuition school and a Mr. Canfield was hired as he was qualified to teach, having a seventh grade education himself. He agreed to teach the three "R's" for a salary of \$24.00. These homesteaders erected this sod schoolhouse in two days. Each pupil had to furnish his or her own seat or stool and a lap board to write on. The students were divided into four classes as to age and ability. They faced the center of the room where the teacher stood. The sod walls were used as back rests by the pupils. The teacher had his stool and used the pole in the center of the room for his back rest. He would move his stool to face the class he was to hear recite.

Many children had to learn the English language as well as the three "R's".

Children would walk in single file with the oldest or strongest leading the way as a club had to be carried with which to deal with rattlesnakes that liked to lay in the paths. These paths were short cuts leading from home to school.

This school operated as a summer tuition school for

only a few years. Soon the homesteaders had proved up on their claims, tax money became available and voters met and voted to build a frame schoolhouse at the same location. After the Rock Island Railroad came through and Munden was established, this school was then moved to Munden.

The 1894 Rep. Co. Directory states that the teachers for that year C. E. Hoard and B. A. Hoard taught for nine months and their wages were \$45 and \$35 a month respectively. The schoolboard at this time was W. E. Carterright, H. M. Stephens, and J. M. Roush. In an excerpt from the "Munden Progress" published Aug. 23, 1907 an article states that by a large majority the voters of Munden decided to build a separate and distinct building in another part of the city for the Primary grades.

Munden Grade School building was built in the city of Munden and completed in 1911. It was built on the site of a former wooden structure formerly used as both grade and high school. It was made with brick from Endicott brick fired in Endicott, Nebr. and is well preserved.



The teacher of grades one through four was Marvil Bushby and Olive Wells taught grades five through eight.

The children in the back row are: Frances Kovarik, Marcella Andrews, Faye Torbert, Lucille Moravek, Alice Hubka, Leona Kadlec, Bessie Parkhurst, Marjory Gregory, L. Bud Kroulik, Johnny Andrews, Maurice Waterson, Leonard Hanel, Joyce Pointer, Johnnie Chopp, Max Hudson, Leon Parkhurst, Henry Blecha and Herschel Mulch.

Middle row: Nadine Kelley, Fern Strnad, Mae Dee Jelinek, Marjorie Horak, Helen Kadlec, Dorothy Hudson, Mildred Trzicky, Lorene Fish, Gayle Hanel, Karen Kelley, Handley, Dorothy Sprague, Norma Beth Stransky, Handley and Helen R. Stransky.

Bottom row: (unknown), Wayne Mulch, Laverne Pointer, (unknown), Forest Strnad, Willie Horak, Harlan Torbert, Richard Nemec, Charles Blecha, Lawrence Nemec, (unknown), Harry Horak and Roland Hudson.

This is the Primary Room that was taught by Miss Morton in 1927. (Picture is courtesy of Dewey Stransky.) The back row, left to right: is Miss Morton, Charles Blecha and Willie Horak. Middle row: Glenn Larson, Lavern Palacek, Jay Lee Jelinek, Karen Kelley, Mildred Trzicky, Pauline Houdek, Georgia Houdek, Frankie Kadlec, Forest Strnad, LaVern Pointer, Richard Nemec



and Harlan Torbert.

Front row: Dorothy Sprague, Helen Ruth Stransky, Norma Beth Stransky, Roland Hudson, Harry Horak, Earl Strnad, Lorene Fish and Lynn Kelley.

The graduates from Munden High School in 1917-18 term were: Helen Brosh Strnad, Mollie Kuckera Sorenson, Mary Waterson Stransky, Hope Henderson Kelly Mulch, Frank Splichal and Wesley Hirmon.



These students were the first year enrollment for a 4-year term at M.H.S.

The teachers for Munden school in 1927-28 were Glenn Lindahl and Mildred Fike. In this picture the students in the back row were: Glenn Hruza, Jim Hull, Anthony Severa, Gerald Lachman, Max Ward, Dale Kelley, Leslie Davenport, Lawrence Pressnell, Glenn Peters and Emma Koukol. Front row: Marie Kovarik, Elsie Hubka, Bessie Homalka, Rosalie Splichal, Dorothy Mulch, Dorothy Mastin, Mollie Vesely, Mollie Hanel, Lillian Jehlik, Vera Gregory, Adelaide Blecha and Tillie Morgan.

The basketball team trained on an outside court. They are: Max Ward, Glenn Peters, Gerald Lachman, Anthony Severa, the coach Prof. Lindahl, Glenn Hruza, Leslie Davenport, Jim Hull, Lawrence Pressnell and J. Dale Kelley. Pictures are courtesy of Elsie Stransky.

One part of every school child's education is learning to appear on the stage in public. Down through the years there have been many programs, festivals and performances that accomplished this training and at the



same time gave joy to them and to their audiences. This is an example of "Indian Maidens". Bottom row, left to right: Mildred Houdek and Mabel Tyler. Top row: Grace Hill, Christie Moravek, Ruby McCall, Tressie Thompson, Anna Strnad, and Rose Rizek. (Picture courtesy Dewey Stransky.)



The Ida School was purchased and moved to Munden in 1955-6. (This picture was taken by Mrs. Eddie Palecek.) It was used as the 5th and 6th grade room and later it was used as a music room. About this same time quite an extensive addition was made by building more schoolrooms, connecting halls and etc., to the original building built in 1911.

In 1968 the Munden high school was bussed to



Belleville and Munden school became a part of Dist. 427. As yet the elementary grades are still using a part of the Munden school as a learning facility.

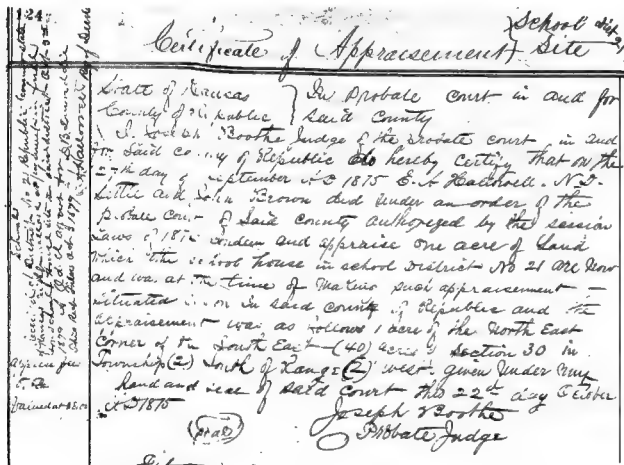


Munden grade school building. Built in the city of Munden and completed in 1911. Built on the site of a former wooden structure formerly used as both grade and high school. Now only a grade school education offered. Made with brick from Endicott brick fired in Endicott, Nebraska. Very well preserved.

We are indebted to Mrs. Odessa Hanzlick, Gerald Moore, LaVerne Palecek, and Mr. and Mrs. Glen (Dewey) Stransky for materials for this history.

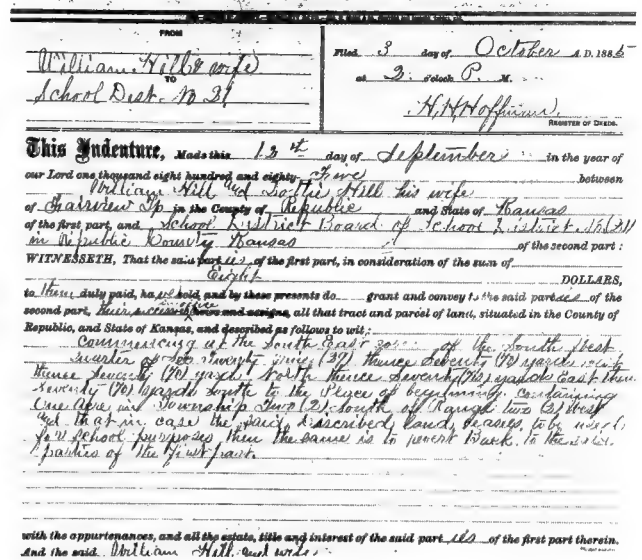
#### DISTRICT 21 — HILL SCHOOL

Fairview township was organized on January 4th, 1871. The first school taught in Fairview township was in the spring of 1872 by Miss Mary Dixon. The school was a dugout located on the Snyder farm in the NE corner of SE 1/4 of section 30. According to Certificate of Ap-

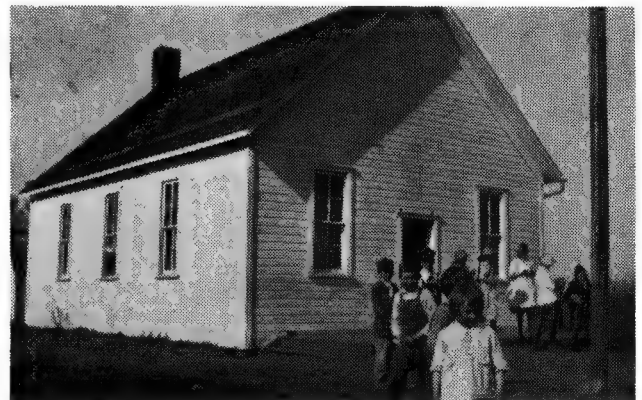


praisement, this school was condemned, and by Warranty Deed the A. went to J.H. Snyder, Sept. 12, 1880. It was a subscription school with a term of three months. The school district had been organized on March 28, 1872.

The second and last location was 1 mile north and 3 1/2 east of Belleville in the SE corner of SW 1/4, section 29. This site for the school was sold by the Hill family (relatives of the late Hills of Belleville) for \$8, according to the Indenture shown here. This quarter was homesteaded and owned by the Hills at the time, also two quarters east of it were homesteaded and owned by the Hills, therefore it was an advantage to the Hills to have the schoolhouse close to their homes, it was also centrally located for the whole



district. A small wooden frame building was constructed here and served the district for many years.



This picture is of the old schoolhouse taken in 1921; Miss Odessa Murphy teacher. Twilla said that she was a first grader that year. This was also Odessa's first year of teaching.

By 1883 there were five schools in Fairview Township. By 1884, just ten years after the organization date of many of the schools in the county there were 4954 boys and girls enrolled in the schools. There were 103 school buildings and a total of 164 teachers employed, of which 56 were men and 108 women. The average salary for the men was \$36.84 per month and \$25.59 for the women.

In 1894-95 Board Members were: Peter Jensen - director; Henry Pachta - clerk; Andrew Hill - treasurer.

In 1895-6, Lisa Myers taught Hill School and H. Colville was the new director.

School board members for the district in 1895 were Henry Pachta, Andrew Hill and Hugh Colville, father of Ethel Vance of Belleville. These men served on the board for many years. Miss Ella Dale taught here in 1894-1895 for \$30 per month.

Miss Effie Howard was the teacher in 1895 with these 18 pupils: Back row, left to right: a girl, Chester Hill, Robert Lund or Roy Salsbury, Elva Salsbury and Mary Blackburn.

Second row: George Ide, Floyd Salsbury, Rachel



Salsbury, Clarence (Pat) Lund, Jane Salsbury.

Third row: Ella Jensen, June Murphy, the teacher Miss Howard, Ethel Colville Vance, Lotta Yowell, Matinka Murphy.

Bottom row: a little boy, Leila Murphy.

In 1902, Miss Cora Simpson was the teacher, her salary was \$35.17 per month and in 1906-1907 Miss Bertha Peake taught a 7½-month term for a salary of \$50 per month.



In 1904-5 Della Alexander taught the school.

During the term of Mr. Charles Rundus (1907-08) this picture was taken at Hill School. The pupils are: Back row, left to right - Greta Collins, Floy Collins, Ethel Ball, Bessie Gieber, Curtis Yowell, Anna Coufal, Ben Giebert, Mary Navratel, a boy, the teacher Mr. Rundus, in front of him is Adolph Pachta, and John Navratel on the end. Middle row: Rosalie Pachta, Blanche Pachta, the next girl was named in the back row, then Joe Coufal, and the three boys were named. Front row: two little girls, Otto Gieber, Gladys Yowell, Edessa Murphy (Hanzlick) loaned the picture, Clavin Yowell, a boy, Mario Murphy.

A new schoolhouse was erected in the summer of 1922 by Andrew Bureman at the same location. The teacher was Miss Odessa Murphy that fall, with an enrollment of 22. Picture; Eleanor Benyshek, Opal Endurde, Twilla Murphy, Pauline Newbauer, ?, Bennie Popelka, Ollie Rytyck, Donald Goodger, Helen Oliver, Arthur Newbauer,



Kenneth Goodger, Mary Ytych, Virgie Goodger, Alice Stransky, Kermit Goodger, Guy Snyder, Irvil West, Myrtle West, (Odessa Murphy), Lean West, Ernest Newbauer, Ed Rytych, and Glen Murphy not in picture.

Francis J. Fickel was the county superintendent. The board members were J.G. Snyder, C.M. Murphy and Charles Stransky.

Between 1906 and 1937 twenty-four teachers had taught at District 21 with salaries ranging from \$55 to \$100 per month.



In 1919-1920 Harold W. Redenbo, the teacher, wrote in one of his reports that the teacher and pupils split and chopped two loads of 'pine posts' for kindling. Harold Redenbo's picture taken from his Souvenir of that year. He had 26 pupils.

In 1922 the County Superintendent wrote on her report that Hill School was almost a Superior School and did become a Superior number one a few years later. Odessa Murphy taught there with 26 pupils.

Maureen Collins taught Hill School District 21 in 1925



with these 23 pupils: Front row, seated: Pearl Eurick, Fred Mitchell, and Mary Jane Snyder.

Second row: Henry Eurick, Frank Popelka, Twilla Murphy, Hazel Mitchell, Leora West, Eleanor Benyshek, Leota Mitchell, Lorraine Benyshek, and Lenora Eurick.

Third row: Teacher Marueen Collins, Ben Popelka, Glenn Murphy, Helen Oliver, Charles Hallowell and Donald Goodger.

Fourth row: Virgie Goodger, Alice Stransky, Kenneth Goodger, Irvil West, Guy Snyder and Elmer Eurick.

In the late 1880's and early 1890's the Hill School District 21 community held Literaries. Both serious and humorous questions were debated. Programs consisting of a Literary paper, music and readings by young and old were given for entertainment. The Literary paper especially caused much merriment.

In 1936 the first social gathering of the year was a Halloween program and party. At this time the Literary was reorganized. They met each month. It was a self-entertainment project for social and educational benefits. In February of 1937 it was decided to have a homecoming for the last day of school in April. The president for the event was Frances Dejimal, the teacher, Velma Snyder, vice-president, and Leona Murphy, secretary. The homecoming proved very successful with a full house, a total number of 204 registering. This same year hot lunches were served for 30 days. No record on how the meals were prepared.

Most of the above information was given to us by Mrs. Odessa (Murphy) Hanzlick and handed down to here by her parents Charles and Nellie Murphy who were young participants of the early Literaries; also Charles Murphy served on the school board for many years and their children attended the Hill School.

The last teacher to teach Hill was Miss Wilma Dolezal of Narka in 1948-1949 with a salary of \$1400 per year with an enrollment of three, they were: Dale Blackburn-6th grade, Eddie Blackburn-8th grade and Yvonne Murphy-8th grade.

C. Stransky, G. Murphy, and H. Snyder were the board members. Thressa Kelly, Co. Supt.

On June 5, 1953 a special meeting was called by the board for the purpose of closing Hill School and consolidating it with the Districts 226 and 86. Hill district was disorganized and became effective on July 1, 1953, after serving the community for eighty-one years. The last board members were Charles Stransky, George Janasek, and Hugh L. Snyder. Mr. Charles Stransky served on the school board for Hill School District 21 from 1921 until its closing in 1953, a total of thirty-two years.

The beautiful building has been sold now and removed from its site and the land returned to the owner who is Frantiska Palacek of Munden.

This report was written by (Mrs.) Muriel (Reed) Tallent who taught Hill in 1932-1933.

#### HISTORY OF BELLEVILLE CENTER, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 22 Courtesy of C.Bowersox

School district No. 22, formally known as Reily Creek District, was organized on April 11, 1871. The first officers were: T.C. Reily, J.K. Anderson, and W. Anderson. The district was composed of the following sections in Belleville township: 14-15-22-23-26-27-34-35 west half of 13-24-25-36, and east half of 16-21-28. In all this was 11½

sections.

The first building was of logs cut on Reily creek and Salt creek. It was then located on the northwest corner of the northwest part of section No. 23. This was then known as the Reilly Place. The logs and labor were donated. I think this was built late in 1871 or early 1872. There is no record stating the exact time. The building was fourteen feet wide and sixteen feet long. There were two windows in it, one in the north side and one in the south side. The only door was in the east. The roof was made of walnut slabs laid on a ridge log and covered with dirt. The lumber which was used was hauled from Waterville, Kansas. The total cost of this building was less than \$25. The desks were boards fastened to pins in the wall; the seats were made of slabs of logs. The scholars sat facing the wall. At one time there were as many as 26 pupils enrolled there. The name of the first teacher on record was Ellen Stailey. She received \$16.20 for teaching her first term of school, which was one month in length. She boarded around among the patrons. The total school tax collected in 1872 was \$32.40.

A number of changes in the territory of the district were made in early days. An extract from the county superintendent's record states as follows: "March 27, 1873, I have this day attached the west half of section 21 to district No. 22. A.D. Marble, co. supt." —On April 9, 1873, I have this day detached west ½ of section 21 from district No. 22. A.D. Marble, county supt."

Another item of interest which was found in the district clerk's record, shows that a contract was let to D.C. Bowersox at the annual school meeting on April 10, 1876, to (1) Put four inches of dirt on roof of schoolhouse. (2) Place a prop under the ridge log. (3) Point up the house on the outside with lime and sand. (4) Mow the grass for eight feet around the schoolhouse. The cost of this work, stated on the contract, was \$6.

Another time a contract was let to R.E. Hall for hauling coal from Minersville at a wage of \$.92 a ton.



Bottom row, first little boy on the left is Ralph Fraser. 6th boy from left bottom row is Charlie Ball. Second row from bottom, fifth from left is William Strong. 8th from left some row is Geneva Fraser. Next on her left is Alma Ball. Third row from bottom, 5th from right is one of the Westrick boys, not sure which.



In the fall of 1878 school bonds were voted to the amount of \$700 to build a new schoolhouse. Picture is courtesy of Lena Bowersox. The location selected for this building was across the road from the old building on section No. 22. W.C. Shull was the contractor for the new building; it was 22 feet wide and 28 feet long, which was a large building at that time. The building was completed in December of that year at a total cost of \$666.50. Miss Norcissa Norris was the teacher in this building. There was just a short term. There were a large number of grown young men and women. The writer of this article was at that time one of the younger boys.

In 1885 a large number of districts were reorganized. District No. 22 was one of these. It was then that the district was cut down to four and a half sections, 15-16-21-22, the southwest quarter of section No. 17 and the northeast quarter of section No. 20. During the summer of 1885 the school building was moved to the present location, three miles south and 1 west of Belleville. Ditto Brothers received the contract for moving the building; they received \$75. Allie Eshelman and Elmer Bowersox cut the cornstalks from the place where the building was to stand. After the building was newly located, the name was changed to Belleville Center because it was in the center of Belleville township. During the term of 1908 and 1909 there was an enrollment of 45 pupils



Forty-two years after this building was built, there was a start made for the present building. Through an error in making levy for school purposes, there was \$1200 more than was necessary to run the school. The patrons, at the annual meeting, voted to place this amount in a building fund for a new schoolhouse, as the old building had been condemned during the winter of 1923. The patrons voted unanimously to build a new schoolhouse. In the spring of 1924 a building committee inspected a number of schoolhouses over the country, and plans were made and a contract was given to A.G. Bureman for the sum of \$1200 to build a new building. This also included the cost of wrecking the old building. The district was to furnish all material, also there was a large amount of labor donated. The building was completed during the summer of a total cost of about \$4,300. The size of the

building was 24 feet wide and 36 feet long with entry and cloak rooms 12 feet wide and 20 feet long, with a full basement underneath. The first teacher was Miss Prudence Strong. The highest wage paid was paid at this time, which was \$90 per month. The only homecoming was held in October, 1938.



The old schoolhouse where C. Bowersox attended.



It was during the late 30's that Miss Mary Sherwood (Dooley) was teaching Belleville Center and these teachers of other years had their picture taken with her: Lela Bowersox (Mrs. Ralph Petico), John Kuhn who taught for many years in the county, Prudence Strong (Mrs. Ralph Petico) - the last three are deceased now.

Mary Sherwood's Board members were: Ralph Fraser, Ralph Pentico, and Charles Mikesell.

Teachers of Belleville Center school district:

Annie Dannepher  
Lulla McChesney

Samuel Thompson  
J.S. Carpentier



Cora Pilkenton  
 Flora E. Ream  
 Norcissa Norris  
 Mary E. Beecher  
 B.T. Bullen  
 Minnie Beecher  
 Emmitt Keith  
 Maude Tucker  
 C.L. Christie  
 May Johnson  
 J.H. Kuhn  
 Vinnie Eshelman  
 Lyda Collins  
 Clara Durkin  
 Jessie Baker  
 Mrs. E.M. Huffman  
 Fannie West  
 Louisa D. Kuhn  
 +J.H. Kuhn  
 Etta Arrasmith  
 Rose Gilbert  
 Daisy Hamilton  
 Flora Imghan  
 Rose Kuchera  
 Hattie Jewell  
 Cora Black  
 Maude Wilkie  
 Pearl Nutter  
 Mayme Jeffries  
 Vera Scott

Floy E. Anderson  
 Elizabeth Surun  
 Vera Strong  
 Alice Benson  
 John Wells  
 Kathryn Fletcher  
 Kitty Wells  
 C.M. Leggitt  
 Mary Hays  
 +Lela Bowersox  
 Edythe Barnhart  
 +Prudence Strong  
 Sunshine Barnhart  
 Mabel Watts  
 Gladys Wilkes  
 Ruth Reed Oliver  
 Mary C. Dunbar  
 H.A. Kuhn  
 Lillie Palecek  
 Opal Westhausen  
 Helen Oliver  
 Mary Sherwood  
 Clarice Dewey - Kelley  
 Fannie Seitz  
 Alva Simmons  
 Laveda Cornett  
 Martin Mitchell  
 Catherine Farlee  
 Florence Milner  
 Hazel Mulch

Bessie Lang (Those marked with + are in the above picture.)

Total teachers: 58, nine teaching two terms or more.



Mrs. Hazel Mulch taught the next to the last year of school at Belleville Center in 1963-4. She has loaned us an indoor picture of these thirteen pupils: Back row, left to right; Nancy Blecha, Ronnie Kearns, Mrs. Hazel Mulch teacher, Karl Sanford. Middle row: Dana Kearns, Terry Noble, Billy Kelley, Becky Sis, Jimmy Wilber.

Bottom row: Becky Wilber, Karl Sanford, Randy Hansen, Debbie Wilber, Roger Blecha.



Much discussion was heard while the new school was built.



Just before Christmas in every school children are "just as good as they can be" with book reports on the wall, the tree is decorated and ready for Santa, the science project is completed and the minutes seem like hours before Christmas really comes!

#### VERY EARLY SCHOOLS IN NORWAY TOWNSHIP SUBSCRIPTION SCHOOLS

The first schools were subscription schools, that is, the funds were raised by the settlers. Among settlers a small amount of money was raised to hire a teacher for a three-month term. The teachers' pay was very meagre.

The first school in Norway Township was taught by Mary Dutton, daughter of Chester Dutton, on the Ole Hammer farm two miles east and three miles south of the present Norway in the spring of 1871.

The second school was in the fall of the same year and was taught by Julia McCathron in the Peder Hammer dugout a mile and a half north and a ½ mile east of Norway.

A very early school was held in a dugout in the bank very near the place where Hungry Hollow School was built

later. Some of the pupils were: Alfa Scott, Leni Scott, Laura Stanton, Ray Chase, Charles Robison, Ellsworth Rogers and Steve Rogers.

Mrs. Bill Ainsworth taught a school on the Isaih Burk homestead in Section 1 in 1872. Her pupils were: Margaret Evans, Sarah Fritzinger, Laura Hall and her sister, and Charles, Will, and George Fritzinger.

According to a story written by Mr. George Stanton, Dr. Winfield Scott and he decided that the little children needed some "book larnin" and so Dr. Scott provided the upstairs of his home and the fuel for a subscription school. This home was located west of the Norway River bridge and a short distance south. They used benches and a teacher's desk made of cottonwood. The second and last year of this school Dr. Scott provided for all the necessities of this school because his two little daughters could go without having to face the hazards of winter.



Ada Stivers picture at the left is the only one we have on an early subscription school teacher. This tintype is of the late 70's.

The above is from Madge Dickerhoof's History of Norway Township, 1961.

#### DISTRICT 23 — NORWAY SCHOOL

On March 18, 1871 an organizational meeting was held and these officers were elected for Norway School District: Amos Austin, director; James B. Raymond, clerk and Joe Merica, treasurer. Then on March 28, 1871 these officers were chosen: John McCathron, director; Ezrra Harding, clerk; and Ole Hugos, treasurer.

Some of the early teachers were; Julia McCathron, Annette Burge, Charles Dutton, Ida Carl, George Page, E. Sheldon, and Laura Stanton who was fifteen years old.

The Second Annual Report of Schools of Republic County shows E.L. Glasgow, County Superintendent; F.E. Way (later Dr. Way), teacher; Board Members were: T.W. Nelson, E.D. Norris and J.F. Dickerhoff.

The first schoolhouse was of native limestone and located ½ mile east and one mile north of Norway. It was later replaced by a frame building, comfortable and well-equipped. In 1908 Norway became one of the few consolidated districts in Republic County. Hungry Hollow, District 95, two miles west of Norway and District 23 were united and became Con. District No. 3. The last School Board for District 23 was Quincy Blosser, A.D. Norris and C.L. Ross.

From 1894-1908 these teachers taught in Norway, District 23: J.B. Heaton, F.E. Way, W.H. Beatty, Emma



Poage, J.W. Cowle, Bertha M. Sherwood, F.L.C. Hall, Mrs. Madge Dickerhoff and Mrs. Blanche Van Dusen. Enrollment ranged from 38 to 54 pupils.



This schoolhouse was located ½ mile east and one mile north of Norway of today. F.L.C. Hall was the teacher. P.J. Hammer is the young man in the picture above. He was in attendance to learn the English language as he had just come from the old country. The pupils (in the picture below) attending here in 1898 were: Ella Anderson, Alice Gile, Robert Scrivner, Lillie Evert, Inga Hugos, John Gile, Lotta Dickerhoff, Addie Gile, Richard Hugos, Minnie Summers, Mae Ireland, Joe Crogmoe, Oleva Thompson, Clara Hugos, John Hugos, Lola Chapman, Ruby Ingrahma, Charlie Ireland, Louisa Throbeck, Clara Melhus, Ward Blosser, Ida Hugos, Murley Summers, Fred Evert, Anna Ireland, Alice Chapman, Robert Anderson, Mary Gile, Josie Hugos, Oscar Thompson, Olga Anderson, Lula Gile, Samuel Chapman, Mamie Blosser, Velvl Branner, George Throbeck, Vivian Blosser, Abel King, Roy Evert, Nadine Blosser, Elmer Evert, Anna Donaldson, Flago King, Hattie Blosser, Carl Donaldson, Emma Donaldson.

The above pupils were all students of Miss Emma

Poage as shown on school records and souvenirs presented to pupils.

Some of the textbooks they used were: Excelsior Readers, Belfield Arithmetic, Rand and McNally Geography, Hoenshell Grammar, E. Taylor U.S. History, Wright and Kuhn U.S. Constitution, Student Speller and Vertical Copybook. All pupils used pen and ink except the primary.

The first district meeting of the Consolidated District 3 was held in the Missouri Pacific depot in Norway on Sept. 19, 1908. Quincy Blosser was elected director, C.L. Ross clerk and William Dunlap treasurer. The teachers chosen for that year were James Smith, principal and Florence Jeardoe. Quincy Blosser gave the land for the new school district. The frame school building from northeast of town was moved to the present school site and remodeled into a two-room schoolhouse. In 1914 it was purchased by the township, moved to the Main Street of Norway, enlarged and used for social, political, and athletic functions. The building has been recently sold to Mr. Strait and is being torn down.



The brick building first had a flat roof which proved to be unsatisfactory. It was replaced with this gabled roof as shown in the picture.



In 1914 a brick edifice replaced the frame structure. This marked the beginning of a two-year high school. In

1916 a four-year high school was established. About thirty years later the high school was discontinued because of decreased attendance, lack of teachers and increased expenses.

## First Annual COMMUNITY DAY Of Norway Township

APRIL 16, 1915 AT NORWAY, KAN.

All schools in the township are invited to attend and assist in the festivities of the day.

The following program has been arranged:

9:30 a. m. General Assembly in Norway High School Auditorium  
Song—Columbia the Gem of the Ocean—Audience, led by Norway school chorus.

Address of Welcome.....Bert Ainsworth

Response .....Mrs. Mertie Walter

Special Numbers from Schools: 1. Highland  
2. Oak Creek  
3. Brewer  
4. "48"  
5. Norway (Rooms 1, 2, 3.)

Song—America ..... Audienec

10:30 Judging of sewing in girls sewing contest.  
Half hour with childrens games (Grades 1 to 5)  
Older girls athletic contests.

12.000—Basket Dinner.

1:00 p. m. Parade and Grand Review of all schools in Township.

1:30 Track Meet. Boys Athletic Contests.

Here is a copy of the program of the First Annual Community Day of Norway Township, April 15, 1915, including all the schools of the township: Fairview, Oak Creek, Highland, "48", and Norway. Fairview School was also known as Brewer School.

In 1919 Con. 3 added another teacher making three for grades one through eight. Other teachers were Ruby R. Norris, Nellie B. Anderson, Freda I. Campbell, Ruth Brown, Thelma Morfoot, Mertie Mills, Emma Behrends, Mildred Kelly, Sarah Wright, Reba Hugos, and Mrs. Melvin Smart.



These pupils took first place in the Maypole Dance in a county contest at Belleville May 3, 1929: Viola Wright,



Joseph Carlgren, Elaine Hammer, Maurice "Jack" Cooper, Twilene Fleak, Eugene Larson, Louise Hammer, Glenn Chambers, Delores Bowling, Clarence Herrman, Beatrice Hammer, Leo Hammer, Evelyn Hammer, Lee Loring, Betty Chambers, and Charles Benton Chambers.

During the school year 1937-38 a Parent-Teacher organization was formed. It served the school and community for several years.

On July 1, 1965 Unified School District 426 was formed, consisting of Norway, Kackley, Courtland and Scandia School Districts.

In the fall of 1953 a bus was used to transport the children to school. Dean D. Brewer, one of the teachers, was the first bus driver. For several years Porter Hammer drove the school bus and Cecil Dickerhoof drove the bus for twenty-three years, until the school closed.

When the school lunch program was started in 1953 Lulu Greer was the first cook. In the fall Mrs. Kenneth (Elsie) Christensen was hired as cook. She served in that capacity until the school closed twenty-two years later.



This Norway Gymnasium Auditorium was constructed in 1958-59 for use of the grade school and as a Community Center. It has served the churches, clubs, and families in many capacities.

On May 22, 1976 the Norway District voted to close its attendance center. Grades K, 6,7,8 had been attending at Scandia for some time. Mrs. Bonnie Elniff, assisted by Mrs. Ivan Carlgren had been teaching the grades one through five. Since the enrollment for the ten pupils necessary to keep the Norway School open was to be below ten, the voters reluctantly made the above decision.

#### DISTRICT 24 — PLEASANT VALLEY

Josie May Robison, who lived in Pleasant Valley District, wrote a history to read at the homecoming in 1936. This is the picture of three of the original pupils of



1872 who were in attendance: George Garber, Fairbury, Nebr., Sallie Mahan-Cooper, and John Mahan both of Scandia.

Perhaps many of the pioneer schools of the county have a history similar to Pleasant Valley and for that reason, we would like to pass along details that have been preserved here.

The organization meeting was held on March 18, 1871 in the home of Richard Nicholas. J.N. Hubbard acted as chairman. William Garber was elected treasurer, William McGuire director and E.K. Mahan clerk.

On November 25, 1871 they voted that the northwest corner of Section 32 would be the school site and rented it from Charles Isaacson. It was decided to call on the householders to see how much material and labor each would agree to donate.

On December 2nd the committee met again and donations were reported: 33 logs, 15 days labor, 3 days hauling, 100 feet of lumber, 2 full windows, some slabs and nails. It was voted that E.K. Mahan was to supervise the building of the schoolhouse and Eric Nelson was to assist him. Several meetings were held as the building progressed.

On Saturday, April 6, 1872 a meeting was held in the new building. A bill for \$71.85 was read and allowed to pay for the materials bought for the building. There was a motion for a tax of 2½ mills to pay the indebtedness of the district and also 2½ mills to supply funds to finish and furnish the schoolhouse. A tax of one percent was levied for school purposes.

The schoolhouse was about 20 ft. by 16 ft. and the floor was of cottonwood boards. The roof was slabs covered with sod. The cracks between the logs in the wall were filled with chips of wood and dirt. There were short windows on the north and on the south and a door in the west end. The benches were of slabs with pegs driven in them for legs. There were holes made in the side walls and pegs driven in them with a cottonwood board about 14 inches wide laid on them for desks. The teacher's desk was made from a large box by William Garber. A large stove was purchased from William McGuire for \$3. The other furnishings were a tin cup, a water bucket and a broom.

Now that the school was finished, the first term of school started Dec., 1872 with J.C. Price as the teacher, for a term of three months. The first pupils were: John Hubbard, Margaret Hubbard, Melvina Hubbard, Tom Nicholas, George Kirk, Henry Garber, Emma Garber, George Garber, Mathew Mahan, Van Mahan, George Mahan, Alson Mahan, Sallie Mahan, Jess McGuire, Elizabeth McGuire, Schyler McGuire, Dunkon McGuire, Olaf Strom, Peter Strom, Charles Larson, Arnold Rosenquist, Bertha Rosenquist, and John Mahan.

In 1873 a new stove was purchased. On January 12, 1874 the school was furnished its first blackboard - a board painted by Eris Nelson. A cloth was used for erasing.

In 1876 an agreement was made with Olie Moe to cut and haul one cord of wood for \$3.50. December 21, 1878 a contract was let to Eric Nelson to deliver corn to the schoolhouse (measured and received by the teacher) at 14½¢ per bushel to be used as fuel to heat the building.

J.C. Price, A.E. Taylor, Flora Haws Ambrose, Albert Stinson, John M. Roach and Cora Barr taught in the log schoolhouse.

As the population of the district increased, the people felt the need of a larger and better building, so a meeting



was called October 11, 1879 and bonds were voted amounting to \$300.

At a meeting four days later it was decided to purchase the lot on which the log schoolhouse stood and replace it with a frame building 36 ft. by 20 ft. This building was to have three windows on each side and a door in the west end. The deed called for a lot 13 rods each way and was recorded October 27th. On November 13, 1879 Charles Isaacson was paid \$15 for the ground.

On October 25th a meeting was called to offer the log schoolhouse for sale but the report says it was not sold for want of bidders.

The lumber for the new frame schoolhouse was purchased from Bryson and Son, Scandinavia, Kans. On Nov. 11, 1879 at a cost of \$207. Norton and Mercer built it for which services they received \$37.

In 1880 five yards of calico were bought for window blinds. The first coat hooks were bought.

The first 10 or 15 years the teachers were hired for fall and spring terms and contracts were made for 3, 3½, or 4 months.

By 1881 the district began burning coal for fuel. In 1883 the coal house was built. In the years 1884-5 a large dictionary, a clock, and roller maps were added to the school equipment.

In 1890 Charles Early taught the only nine month term this district ever had. That year the school census showed 59 pupils in the district and so the patrons again felt that additional space was needed. They voted to construct a 16 by 20-foot addition with two windows on each side and an entrance 6 feet square with double doors outside and inside. The contract went to the lowest bidder, F.F. Leveke who agreed to furnish all the materials, put in the foundation, and paint all the buildings in workman-like style; all this for \$243. The work was to be completed by August 20, 1891.



The Scandia Museum has kindly loaned us this early picture (1891) of pupils and teacher, Miss Cora Glasgow, showing the period when Pleasant Valley School was recording its largest enrollments. Not all pupils attended at the same time - there were summer, fall, and winter terms. Front row: Nathan Isaacson, Noble Isaacson, Miss Glasgow the teacher, Amy Garber, Albert Westin, Zenia Moe, Mary Lervold, Anna Rosenquist, Amanda Rosene, Mary Moe, Second row: Clara Grandstedt, Anna Lervold, Claude Miller, Louis Allen, Robert Sundine, Nora Miller, Charlie Larson, August Rosene, Larvis Lervold, Celia Hamond, Zora Garber. Back row: Julia Rosene, Albert Moe, Olivia Lervold, Nels Westin, Nathan Garber,

Mary Larson, Rudolph Moe, Addie Garber, Susie Lervold, Maryetta Hamond and Horace Hamond.

The largest enrollment ever recorded at Pleasant Valley School was in 1891 when 62 were listed.

In 1892 all country schools started taking "county examinations" for graduation. August Rosene was the first graduate under this system graduating in the spring of 1893.

On October 12, 1892, Columbus Day, the first outdoor flag was raised on a tall ash pole which the larger boys of the school had gone to the river and cut, brought to the school ground, and erected.

Prior to 1889 all the water was carried from a neighboring farm house. Now a well was drilled on the schoolground.

August 31, 1900 a large bell was bought and a belfry was built the same size as the entry, with a flagpole on top.

In October, 1896 H.S. Robison signed a contract agreeing to deliver coal to the coalhouse bin, costing \$2.25 at the pit. He was to receive for service \$2 if hauled from Minersville, \$1 if from Republic, or 50c if hauled from Scandia.



The term of 1920-03 was taught by Ella Rockhold and in this picture are her pupils: bottom row, left to right; Frank Mahan, Dorothy Street, Grace Mahan, Esther Johnson, Ella Rockhold teacher, Sadie Robison, Emmaline Street, Josie Robison and John Mahan. Second row: Ethel Sundine, Andrew Grandstedt, Clarence Mahan, Ernest Fulcomer, William Street, Elmer Rosene, Frank Grandstedt, James Street and Adah Robison.

Third row: Bertha Street, Josie Rosenquist, Bertha Johnson and Lydia Johnson.

Top row: Hannah Grandstedt (Freed), Katie Garber (Isaacson), Lena Johnson (Lloyd), Mable Rosenquist



(McClure), Anna Street (Hall).

A tornado came roaring out of the south on Friday evening of June 5, 1908 stripping foliage and branches from the trees and even tearing out large trees by the roots. Several farm homes were badly damaged and the schoolhouse was demolished. (Picture, courtesy of Frank Williams).

On July 16, 1908 a new building was planned, 3 miles north and 1 west of Scandia. It would be 25 by 32 feet, but on July 30 at a second meeting they decided to make the new building as nearly as possible like the old one. \$800 was appropriated. This time there was to be a slate black-board.



By 1921 District 24 was made a Standard School when Esther Isaacson was the teacher. By 1946-47 there had been 75 years of school and 46 teachers had taught. The last school board were: Stanley Moe director, Noble Isaacson clerk, and Rex Sandell treasurer.

Nathan Isaacson of S. 613 Bow Dish, Spokane, Wash. 99206 and his twin brother, Noble Isaacson of Scandia, Kansas were 93 years old last November, 1975.

Mrs. Mabel Rosenquisht McClure, 220 Cherry Ave., Denver, Colo. 80207, Mrs. Lillian Evert McGregor, Rest Home, Marshall, Mo. 65340 are probably the oldest living pupils who attended school at District 24.

The Christmas program and the Last Day of School Dinner were two of the highlights of the school year. Here is a picture of one such gathering in 1919 when Esther Isaacson was the teacher.

Here is a list of the teachers for Pleasant Valley



School: J.C. Price, Dec. 9, 1872, Subscription for three months; A.E. Taylor, 1873; Flora Haws Ambrose, 1874-1876; Albert Stinson, 1876-1877; John M. Roach, 1878; Cora Barr, fall 1879; Emma Frees, spring 1880; Libby Barrett, fall 1880; Agnes Baird, spring 1881; D.P. Johnson, fall 1881; Minette Beecher, spring 1882; James Haley, 1882-1885; John R. Ward, fall 1883; H.M. Stevens, 1886-1887; Edward Glasco, 1888; Cora Glasco, 1889-1891; Charles Early, 1890; Albert P. Peterson, 1892-1895; Charles Christie, 1893-1895; J. Harvey Sandell, 1895-97; Pricie Maxwell, 1897-1899; Adele Booze, 1899-1901; Ella Rockhold, 1901-1903; Ida Bullen, 1903-1904; Ella Rockhold, 1904-1906; Edith Anderson, 1906-1908; Ella Rockhold, 1908-1909; Gerturde Dick, 1909-1910; Estella Booze, 1910-1911; Perl Foster Street, 1911-1912; Myrtle Cortner, 1912-1913; Blanche Williams, 1913-1914; Arthur Sjolholm, 1914-1915; Flossie Mills, 1915-1916; Vera Plott Sjolholm, 1916-1917; Eunice Muchell, 1917-1918; Myrtle Marlow Robison, 1918-1919; Esther Isaacson, Johnson, 1919-1922; Helen Rickle-Erickson, 1922-1923; Alta Sherill, 1923-1925; Sadie Robison, 1925-1927; Velma Saunders, 1927-1929; Ruth Johnson, 1929-1934; Myra Sherwood, 1934-1936; Opal Westhausen, 1936-1937; Edyth Knapp, 1937-1938; Ruth McGregor Burns, 1938-1943; Elizabeth Street Nelson, 1943-1945; Esther Cooper, 1945-1946; Mae Berggren Sandell, 1946-1947.



In 1946 Miss Mae Berggren (Sandell) had these pupils in grades five, seven and eight: Ann Peterson, Arlene Peterson, Richard Johnson, Charley Milner, Blaine Milner.

#### McCUNE SCHOOL—DISTRICT 25

##### LATER, CONSOLIDATED 226

The name McCune was derived from a family by that name who lived near the schoolhouse 2 miles east and 1¼ south of Belleville. The first school was a subscription school. The district was organized February 24, 1873 and the first officers were: John Robbins director, Gordon Frame, treasurer; and W.P. Peake clerk. The meeting was held in the John Robbins home.

In 1872 land was leased from Billy Noland for a period of 99 years and a schoolhouse was built on the south side of Section 6 in Jefferson Township during that year by Peter Jensen, who was a stone mason.

Here is a picture loaned to us by Mrs. Anna Pollard, which shows the early stone school (about 1889) when



Miss Grace Helwick was the teacher. Some of the pupils are not known, but beginning with the back row, left to right: John Novak, Willie Randall, a girl, Ella McBride, John Frame, a boy, Arthur Howard, Cloyd Champion, Mary Hansl, Lucy McBride, Anna Fram and the teacher Miss Helwick. Standing in front of the back row: Harry Rowley, Frank Novak, a boy, a girl, Amy Randall, John Brooks, Clarence Peake, then seated on chairs: Mary McBride, Johnston boy, Frank Kasl, Essie Ruggles, Charlie Kasl, Hazel Thompson, Glen Thompson, Arthur Rowley; seated on the ground are: a Johnston girl, a little girl and two little boys unknown, and George Brooks. We note that the water did not have to be carried far—the old oaken bucket hangs on the well nearby.

This stone building served the district until 1919 when a frame structure took its place.

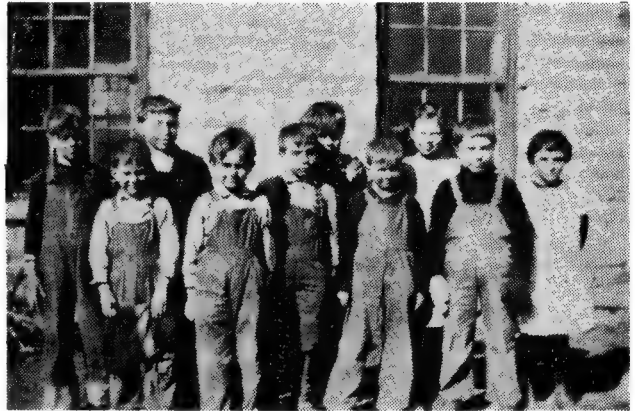
The first teacher in the old stone school was Joe Dixon and the second term was taught by Mrs. Logan McChesney. The first teacher in the new frame school building was Alta Fritzinger during the 1919-20 term.

There had been 47 terms of school taught in the McCune School before the new frame building was erected. In 1891 there were 71 pupils enrolled. They sat wherever space was available. The window ledges served as make-shift seats. When a pupil was absent, his seat was taken by another pupil, and when he came back he had to sit in one of the windows again. Alice Howard Thompson had the honor of teaching this over-sized group (dubious honor it must have been!)

By courtesy of Ed Vanous, 1609 H St., Belleville, we have this picture of McCune School about 1909-10 when



Miss Nellie Logan was the teacher: Frank Kasl, Harold Blackburn, Myrtle Blackburn, Guy Robbins, Elsie Robbins, Rosie Robbins, Mollie Nixon, Alice Splichal, Sara Jenson, Mary McCune, Ed Vanous, Lottie Vanous, Grace Jenson, Sunshine Ward, Pearl Ward, Lula Ward, Waitie Wicks, Anna Wicks, Sadie Wicks, Frank McNealy, Merie McNealy, Myrtle McNealy, and five were not on the picture, he says, so the school must have had 28 on the roll when Miss Logan taught there.



Fern Murphy shared her picture of pupils in lower grades at McCune School in 1916 when Miss Edythe Lowell was the teacher: from left to right as faces appear in a staggered row - Ralph Kelley, Willis Nixon, Glenn Kasl., Clifford Andrews, Roy Blackburn, Charley Andrews, Glenn Nixon, Fern Nixon, Willis Splichal and Gladys Kasl.



Souvenirs that were given by the teachers on the last day of school were often lovely pieces of art that, at the same time preserved much of the history of the school.



This one has cut-out filigree to enhance the roses and doves in flight, carrying the best wishes of the teacher, Miss Ethyl Stafford, March 1914, to a roomful (28) of pupils who had spent many days with her: Alice Splichal, Roy Blackburn, Johnnie Robbins, Houston Bell, Cecil Bell, Laura Boyce, Jay Williams, P. Earl Williams, Vern Hill, Anna Wicks, Myrtle Blackburn, Jimmie Robbins, Leato Bell, Hazel Bell, Glenn Nixon, Eddie Vanous, Hazel Williams, Clifford Andrews, Sadie Wicks, Willie Splichal, Harold Blackburn, Adelbert Bell, Loyd Bell, Fern Nixon (who was in her first grade and saved this Souvenir for us!), Viola Boyce, Charles Williams, Charlie Andrews and Ralph Kelley.

Fern Nixon's report card for 1913-14 showed attendance, the grades were in percentages, and she studied orthography, reading, writing and numbers. She also received percentage grades in deportment! She also attended school only seven months. Her County Superintendent was Euna M. Arrasmith. The Board members were N.D. Settle, clerk; Frank Splichal, director; and Howard Nixon, treasurer (whose signature we find on Fern's report card each month!)

In 1910-11 there were 22 girls and only nine boys listed on the Souvenir that the teacher Nellie Logan gave that year. The Board members were: Bertha Settle, A.J. Wicks and Samuel Nixon. The Superintendent was W.M. Slopansky. Lottie Vanous, Anna Wicks, Mollie Nixon, Sunshine Ward, Ila McCune, Mary Applegarth, Elsie Robbins, Myrtle McNealy, Grace Jensen, Myrtle Blackburn, Muriel Thompson, Waitie Wicks, Sadie Wicks, Lulu Ward, Alice Splichal, Leola McCune, Rosa Robbins, Bessie and Marie McNealy, Sara Jensen, Goldie Thompson and Hazel White, were the girls enrolled. The boys were: Ben Kasl, Harold Blackburn, Frank McNealy, Guy Robbins, Frank Kasl, Eddie Vanous, Frank Thompson, Edmond Gore and Wilbert Applegarth.

In 1914-15 Caro May Goppert was the teacher and we note that Clarence Goppert had joined the roll.



In 1919 the new frame school took the place of the stone school and Elizabeth Goosmen was the teacher when these pupils were there: Back row left to right - Marjorie Blecha, Ruth Brubaker, Jean Blecha and Kenneth Logan. Second row: Blecha, F. J. Janousek, Rex Logan, Ed Kauer, Billy Lynn, Fred Kauer, Bud Lynn and Betty Morehead. Front row: Anna Janousek, P.C. Johnson, Dewey Brubaker and Melvin Morehead.



The McCune picture at the top was taken shortly before it was dismantled by Mrs. William C. Lynn and Nettie Barnett has kindly passed it on to us. The picture of the children belongs to Mrs. Allen Logan.

Mrs. Nettie Barnett tells that she was the only official cook for McCune School during the winter of 1941-42 when she served under the National Youth Administration Program. She also says it was the only time in her life that her reputation as a cook ever "hung on a pot of beans." Mrs. Lunn's sons were concerned about her culinary skills until the day she prepared a kettle of beans - they met with their approval and she passed the test!



Mrs. Creston Haworth who taught McCune in 1921-22 when her name was Ora Ekstrom. She had this picture of the school and twenty-three pupils who are a bit difficult to identify. Perhaps our readers will be able to do it.

Harold Kelley was one of her pupils and has been able





to identify these farm boys: back - Charley Andrew and Roy Blackburn holding Henry Robbins,, Millard Robbins and Harold Kelley holding Gerald Andrews, Ralph Kelley and Wes Hallek holding Albert Andrews. Sitting in front are John Robbins and Herman Brunsilius.

The school was closed because of lack of pupils at least once during the period between 1919 and 1964. Mrs. Esther Coonrod taught the last school held in the district.

#### DISTRICT 26 — ZION SCHOOL

On the organization date for Zion School, there seems to be some discrepancy. In the courthouse records, the date is given as March 28, 1872. According to the Republic County History, 1868-1964, it was organized in 1871 in Lincoln Township south of Talmo. However, part of the district boundaries were in Grant Township also. The first Board members were: Milton A. Daughette director, Ferdinand Sorgatz clerk and George E. White treasurer. The schoolhouse was located one-half mile west and two south of Talmo.

The earliest records of the teachers at Zion School begin in:

1894-95 Nannie Newburn 8 mos + \$25  
 1895-96 William McInture  
 1902-03 Maggie McDonald  
 1895-96 School Board members: E.A. Cory, clerk;  
 F. R. Lowell, treasurer; John Johnson, dir.  
 1906-07 Verna Burkam  
 1907-08 Leota Nutter  
 1908-09 Hattie Jewell  
 1909-10 Florence Jeardoe  
 1910-11 Bertha Handley  
 1911-12 Leva Burkman  
 1912-13 Edna Graham  
 1913-14 Ed Stafford  
 1914-15 missing  
 1915-16 Leva Burkman  
 1916-17 to 1917-19 are missing  
 1919-20 Lewis Jeardoe  
 1920-21 Hazel Smith  
 1921-22 Hazel Smith  
 1922-23 Hazel Smith  
 1923-24 Hazel Smith  
 1924-25 Stella Zerbe  
 1925-26 Stella Zerbe  
 1926-27 Stella Zerbe  
 1927-28 Ruth Reed  
 1928-29 Ruth Reed 22 pupils  
 1929-30 Ursula Norlund  
 1930-31 Mrs. Ursula Lilly  
 1931-32 Naomi Ekstrom  
 1932-33 Isadora Harrell  
 1933-34 Isadora Harrell  
 1934-35 Irma Harris  
 1935-36 Isadora Pendleton  
 1936-37 Lois Palmer  
 1937-38 Louise Cyr  
 1938-39 Anna Donahoe  
 1939-40 Neva Esther Payne  
 1940-41 Esther Way  
 1941-42 - 1944-45 Are Missing  
 1945-46 Clarice Kelley  
 1946-47 Clarice Kelley

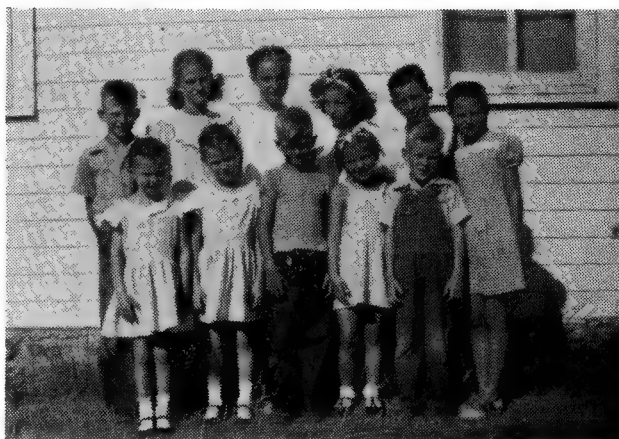
1947-48 Clarice Kelley  
 1948-49 Clarice Kelley  
 1949-50 Mrs. Bernice Fry  
 1950-51 Mrs. Bernice Fry  
 1952-52 Edythe Lowell  
 1952-53 Edythe Lowell  
 1953-54 Edythe Lowell

School Board: Martha Johnson, Blaine Sherwood, Lloyd Lowell.

Zion District accepted some territory from Mercer District 98 on Feb. 21, 1958 when Mercer was disorganized. Lloyd Lowell was director, Martha Johnson clerk, and Kenneth Sherwood treasurer.

There was a meeting to disorganize Zion School District on May 9, 1962 and they voted "No". Signed by Martha Johnson, Clerk.

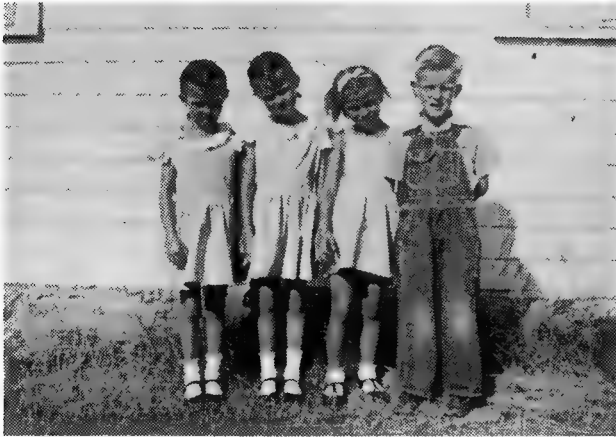
The County Superintendent, William Matthias, declared Zion disorganized according to the 1955 Law, Chap. 72, Ar. 8, Sec. 72-829, G.S. Supp. 1955. On August 13, 1962 the Talmo Board accepted the Zion District territory with the exception of a small part to the south which was accepted by Hollis District 80 in Cloud County on Aug. 25, 1962. That was signed By Mrs. Vernon Beneda, clerk of Hollis District.



During the years that Mrs. Clarice Kelley taught Zion from 1945-49, she has loaned us these pictures: in the large group in the front row - Janet Lowell, Joanna Lowell, Ronald Campbell, Mary Beth Campbell and Jacob Sherwood. Back row - Duaine Sherwood, Lois Sherwood, Reye Johnson, Carolyn Campbell, Charles Johnson and Phyllis Sherwood.

In this picture of the "football line-up" are the typical fall scene for many of the playgrounds over the area.





The first grade at Zion were: Janet Lowell, Joanna Lowell (twins) Mary Beth Campbell, Jacob Sherwood.

#### DISTRICT 27 — SEAPO

Although the village of Seapo had been doing a flourishing business during the late 1860's, Seapo School had its first meeting on March 30, 1871. Perhaps some of the pupils had gone to the early Fairview School or to subscription schools, but 1871 is the organization date.

At that meeting the first School Board was elected: A. W. Miller director, Charles Beebe clerk and W.T. McClanahan treasurer. Later, James Tuthill was appointed to the Board to replace McClanahan.

The word Seapo is an Indian word signifying "Salt Basin" - in fact the little village was originally called Salt Marsh and changed to Seapo about the time the school was organized. Looking across the expanse of landscape back of the school you can envision the Salt Marsh.



Mrs. Mabel Hazen-Hull was a pupil in the 1890's when this picture was taken and Will Sterba was the teacher. She wrote from her home in Lincoln, Arkansas that in this picture are the children of Joseph Stenger - Mary, Rosie, Annie and Barbara, and Joseph, Jr.; the children of Mack and Sarah McClanahan - Alma, Earl, and the twins Robert and John; Sam Wilson's family - Grace, Tillie, Lizzie and Oliver; Hugh Breckenridge's family - Harley

and Denzell; Delos Hazen's family - Clifford, Mable and Bradford; Children of Vint and Myra Powell - May and Martin; the Bowersox children - Angie, Edna, Arthur and George; Stella and Della Hill; Raymond and Naomi Nelson; Arthur Steburg and Ed Cole. Mable Hazen is the first little girl sitting on the ground and her brother Bradford is sitting in the middle holding his hat. Will Sterba is at the left in the back row. There are forty pupils. Mrs. Hull states that this schoolhouse is the first one when the town was there and had two large rooms, coat closets, etc.



About 1930-31 while Lenora Ekstrom-Smock taught Seapo this picture of the school was taken with Margaret and Mary Frances Feight on the steps.



In 1940 Evelyn Smith taught Seapo - she is a niece of Will Sterba and shares this picture taken more than forty years later. In April, 1940 these were her pupils: back row - Melvin Ekstrom, jr., Albert Blochlinger and LaVern Ekstrom. Front row are: Jane Vrana, Joyce Vrana, JoAnn Vrana and Mary Blochlinger.

Albina Tuma-Chizek shared a Souvenir given by Doris E. Ekstrom, the teacher in 1921-22 and again in 1922-23. The pupils were: Opal Eldringhoff, Cecil Smock, Alex Smith, Vernon Walker, Beulah Cole, Lee Smock, Lenora Ekstrom, Emily Breckenridge, Hazel Eldringhoff, Deane Breckenridge, Ruby Steburg, Albina Tuma, Ernest Tuma, Jake Cole, Doris Cole, Naomi Ekstrom, Verner Ekstrom, Frank Tuma, Eddie Tuma, Mark Breckenridge, Beryl Eldringhoff. The Board members were: W.O. Smith, E. Cole and L.W. Ekstrom.

From the old School Records we have compiled this list of teachers, the number of pupils and the dates of the terms of school:

March 28 - June 18, 1887 T.P. Harris taught 51 pupils. This was before the graded system had been initiated and his record shows pupils divided into Primary, Intermediate and Grammar Divisions.

Sept. 5, 1887 - Feb. 24, 1888 T.P. Harris 57 pupils

Feb. 27, 1888 - May 25, 1888 T.P. Harris 37 pupils

Mr. Harris had signed three contracts that school year.

1894-95 K.V. Perkins 6 mos. + \$35.

Records have been lost until 1913 and in the meantime the graded system had been inaugurated in the State of Kansas (about 1908).

Sept. 9 - Apr. 25, 1913 Thressa Thompson 30 pupils

Sept. 8 - Mar. 31, 1914 Myrtle Lilly 24 pupils

Aug. 31, 1914 - Apr. 20, 1915 Myrtle Lilly 40 pupils

1915-16 Gertrude Francis 27 pupils

1916-17 Adelaide McClure 31 pupils

1917-18 Frances Mahon 37 pupils

1918-19 Cecil Nicholas

Ruth Clark School was closed 2½ months on account of influenza.

1919-20 Isadore Lisher Box supper netted \$32.

1920-21 Mrs. Mabel Lahan 31 pupils  
Doris Cole in Grade 2, First Prize in County Spelling

1921-22 Doris E. Ekstrom 21 pupils

1922-23 Doris E. Ekstrom

1923-24 Mary Anthony 21 pupils

1924-25 Mary Anthony 19 pupils

1925-26 Fay Nye 17

1926-27 Alta Sewart 13

1927-28 Alta Sewart 13

1928-29 Alta Sewart 14

1929-30 Helen Ericson 19

1930-31 Lenora Ekstrom 16

1931-32 Lenora Ekstrom 14

1932-22 Lenora Ekstrom 13

1933-34 Leonor Ekstrom-Smock 14

1934-35 not given 10

1935-36 Margaret Trimble 9

1936-37 Margaret Trimble-Kelsey 6

1937-38 Frances Miller 8

1938-39 Frances Miller 8

Diploma Exams still given

19939-40 Evelyn V. Smith 7

1940-41 Evelyn V. Smith 7

1941-42 Wilam G. Lisher 9

1942-43 Eileen Dulin 4

1943-44 Evelyn V. Smith 5

Lost records for five years.

1948-49 Lewis Jeardoe 4

1949-50 Alva Simmonds 7

1950-51 Alva Simmonds 6

1951-52 Alva Simmonds 8

1952-53 Alva Simmonds 8

1953-54 Alva Simmonds 7

1954-55 Alva Simmonds 5

1955-56 Alva Simmonds 5

At the left is a picture of the five pupils at Seapo the last year before it was disorganized. Mr. Simmonds was the teacher the last seven years. In the back are: Terrill La Clef, Gary Dean Beneda and Loretta Wallace. In front are twin daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tuma, Marilyn and Carolyn Tuma.



On June 5, 1959 Seapo School District disorganized and was annexed to Agenda District 113. June 17, 1959 Seapo District 27 was accepted as part of Agenda District. Superintendent William Matthias declared Seapo disorganized on June 23, 1959. The schoolhouse was sold to Gillan on October 17, 1959.

#### ORR SCHOOL — DISTRICT 28

The first meeting after Orr School Dsitric 28 was organized July 15, 1872 was held at the home of William Little on the 23 rd of July just eight days later. At this meeting the following officers were elected by ballot: William Little, director; J.S. Galyean, clerk; S.T. Rider, treasurer.

It was voted that a tax be levied for school purposes on the taxable property of this District as follows: for teaching fund one percent, incidental expenses ¼ percent.

Prior to this meeting, the Rpeublic County Superintendent, Wilson Lancaster, had formed the District to be known as District 28 to be made up of Sections 29- 30-31- 32 and the west ½ of Section 28 and 37 Township 3 Range 2 West and the east half of Sections 25 and 36 in Township 3 Range 3 W. This was dated July 1872.

Plans were made for the new schoolhouse at this first meeting. It was decided that bonds were to be issued in the amount of \$800 payable in 8 years. The schoolhouse was to be erected in the southeast corner of the SW¼ Section 30, 3 S, 2 W. The building was to be of stone and it was used until 1911 when a new frame building was to take its place. Its location was ½ mile east of the old building. The cost of the old school was \$570.18, the lumber cost \$223.37 stone, \$90 nails came to \$2 and labor was the big cost, \$254.81. The stove cost \$15 and Mrs. Galyean had a bill for labor on seats for the schoolhouse of \$12.47.

The first teacher was Leo Bullen in 1873-74 for \$20 per month.

N. T. Van Natta, who was a lawyer and a neighbor, taught the second term of school, His daughter Maggie VanNatta was the third teacher, teaching in 1875. It was 1917 through 1919 that a granddaughter of N.T. VanNatta, Cora Anderson taught District 28, thus making three generations to have taught here.

The school was given the name of Orr because the Orr

family lived near the school and A. Orr served on the school board during those early years.



About 1903-04 it seems we have some barefoot boys — those were the days! In the back row: Florence Applegarth; Floy Anderson and Flossie Spencer, teachers; Troy Spencer; George Urban.

Front row: Henry Spurney, Ray Johnson, Frank G. Spurney, Mary Applegarth,, Mary Johnson, Rosie Proft, Hazel Spencer, Anna Proft and Mary Proft is in front of Rosie Proft. Elsie Spencer is in front of Hazel Spencer. (Picture is shared by Spurney family.)



In 1905 or 1906 the teacher was Miss Flossie Spencer. In this picture from left to right are: Back row, Frank Spurney, Ray Johnson, Henry Spurney, Troy Spencer, the teacher Miss Spencer, Anne Proft, Hazel Spencer, Rosie Proft.

Second Row: seated on the bench,, Mary Proft, Mary Spurney, Mary Johnson, Anne Johnson, Hildred Johnson, Lester Spencer, Elsie Spencer and Epler Thompson, fifteen pupils in all.

The plans for the second and last schoolhouse were made on May 27, 1911 when an election was held to vote bonds for the new schoolhouse. The bonds carried by 13 votes. The judges on the election board were: E.E. Bowman, Robert Lund, and A. Groberg. The clerks were H. J. Spencer and G. O. Thompson.

Andrew Bureman had not yet completed the building

of the new building when it was time for school to start in September, but school started as planned and the carpenter kept on hammering nails and sawing boards!



Miss Myrtle Ann Lilly was the first teacher in the new schoolhouse. She rode her horse from her home in Wayne. That was a distance of four miles which must have been bitter on cold winter mornings. Miss Hazel Thompson was the next teacher.

A little humor is to be found on the pages of the Clerk's Record Book. A special meeting was called for October, 1922 for the purpose of settling certain disputes and for better understanding. The Board laid down certain rules which were to be followed:

a - Profanity is to be strictly forbidden.

b - The teacher is to be respected in her capacity as teacher.

c - Back-talk is forbidden.

These rules were voted on and unanimously carried.

Signed, The School Board

This writer has a strong suspicion that on Monday morning the Board appeared at the opening of school and the rules were read to the school! Perhaps they were also posted on the schoolhouse door! What fine support for the teacher, and good administration on the part of the Board!



In 1926-27 Miss Lillie Danielson (Sherwood) taught her first term at Orr School. Her pupils were: Front row,



left to right - Lena Thompson, Mary Norlund, Doris Baughm, Tessibel Norlund, Irene Bates, Margaret Thompson, Max Thompson. Back row: the teacher Miss Danielson, Bessie Proft, Edward Norlund, Elwood Baughm, Frank Norlund, Oscar Norlund and Harry Goppert.

Three times the school was closed down during the last twenty years of the existence of District 28, for lack of pupils or because of the teacher shortage during World War II.

The last two teachers were Mrs. Mary Frances-Snapp in 1950-51. Then Dorothy McDonald taught in 1951-52.

At the Annual Meeting April 20, 1955, it was voted that Orr School, District 28, was to be disbanded and divided among these school districts: Wayne District 3, McCune District 226 Con., Grant District 108, and Talmo District 105. This was by an order of disorganization issued by Mrs. Thressa Kelly, the County Superintendent. The Board serving these final rites was: Floyd Forney, Director; Myrtle Klima, Clerk; and Joe Proft, Treasurer.

#### DISTRICT 29 — WHITE

On March 31, 1870 District 29 was organized in Richland Township and part of Jefferson Township. The sections 19, 20, 29, 30, SW $\frac{1}{4}$  21 in Richland and the E $\frac{1}{2}$  of Section 24 and 25 in Jefferson were included. The following officers were elected: George D. White, Director; J. M. Davidson, Clerk; and Ransom Harper, Treasurer. There is no record who the teacher was. In 1872 there were 12 boys and 9 girls attending.

The first record available for the history of White School No. 29 was a Treasurer's book dated Sept. 4, 1875.

The first building was located in Township 3, Range 1 in the N.W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 29 on what was then the Henry Klaumann farm 2 miles South and  $\frac{1}{4}$  East of Cuba. (See 1 on map.)

The first teacher for the school was G.A. Terpening, who was paid \$21.40 in September 1875 and \$26.50 in April 1876 as his salary. Esther Wilson also was paid on the same day in April for teaching. Her amount was \$11.20. The total salary for the first year was \$86. Esther Wilson received pay until Sept. 5, 1876. The following year Esther Wilson and Leo Bullen were paid a total of \$105 for their salary.

The amount received by the Treasurer the first year from the State Dividends, county teacher's fund, building fund, etc. was \$95.48. The expenditures were \$94.20 leaving in the hands of the Treasurer \$1.28.

Some new seats were purchased in 1886 for \$100.25 and a ton of coal for \$3.31. During this year they had 3 teachers; W.A. Spooner, G. W. Shellhammer and C. E. Costolo.

In February 1890, James Wallack was paid 25c for a load of cobs. The same year he was paid 60c for making a trip to Belleville. But in 1891 prices went up for Mr. Canaday was paid 40c for hauling and 40c for the cobs, totaling 80c per load.

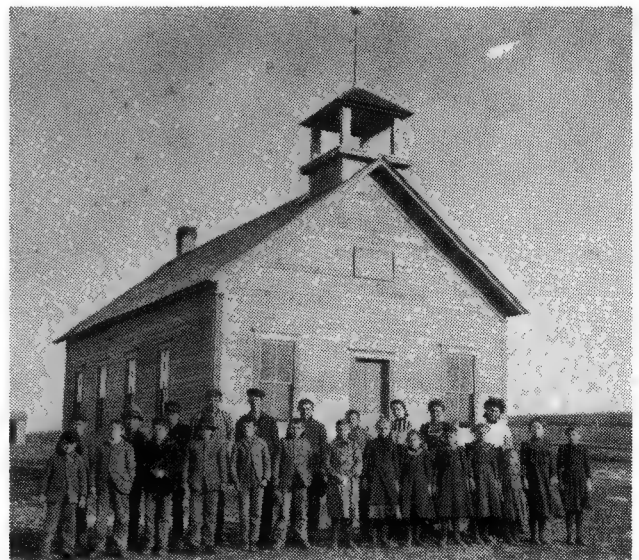
The teacher in Sept. 3, 1900 to April 19, 1901 was Miss Grace Dannefer. O.B. Smith, Director; Fred Barton, Clerk; and John Wallack, Treasurer were the board members.

In 1903, one acre of land was purchased from John (Wallack) Valek for \$55 and a new frame building 36 by 22

Richland Township  
Showing location of White Schools

	6	5	4	3	2	1
	7	8	9	10	11	12
	18	17	16	15	14	13
24	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	30	29	28	27	26	25
	31	32	33	34	35	36

feet was built at the cost of \$923, completed November 27, 1903. The bell for the new school was purchased April 20, 1904 for \$20. A coal house 12 by 16 was built in Oct. 1905. The old school house was sold to Henry Klaumann for \$37.00. The first teacher in the new schoolhouse was Miss Anna Kennison (1903-1904). This building was located in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 19 on what is now the Highway south of Cuba. (See 2 on map.)



Pupils in this 1903-1904 picture are: Front row—left to right; Wesley Kolman, Lawrence Klaumann, Lewis Hadachek, Ladimer Kolman, Charley Koukol, Louis Klaumann, Frances Valek-Kepler, Rose Zachek-Barnett, Bessie Koukol-Shema, Ella Hadachek-Jackson, Albina Churma-Tuma, Bessie Valek, Daisy Baxa-Havel, Matilda Valek-Havel. Back row: Wesley Skocny, Jerry Koukol, Edd Hadachek, Arthur Klaumann, Gilbert Smith, Edd Klaumann, Henry Klaumann, Frances Celoud-Prymek, Stella Zachek-Beneda, Anna Kennison-teacher. Anna Valek not in picture.

Frank Jehlik, now a resident of Belleville was the teacher in 1904-1905 and was paid the salary of \$270.00 May

17, 1905. He is the oldest living teacher of White School in 1976. He is about 96 at the present writing.

Picture-courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Kolman.

In 1918, because of the small number of pupils, school was closed and the pupils were to have gone to Harper, District 80.

In 1950, White School was consolidated with Cuba Grade School, and officially annexed March 3, 1953. An auction was held and the building was sold to Herman Klaumann, the highest bidder. It is being used as storage for grain. The last teacher was Miss Virginia Kopsa-Recchio. The board members were Edd Kolman, Director, Edd Ryman, Clerk, and Herman Klaumann, Treasurer.

During the course of time from 1875 to 1950, a total of about 50 teachers taught the many pupils who can be found in all walks of life.

One of the teachers, around 1880, lived in the Juneke house about one and one half miles South of White School, and taught at Harper. When Harper closed she walked to White and taught there. Emma Klaumann walked with her and attended White.

Box suppers and cakewalks were held to raise money. Many different years the teacher and pupils walked ½ mile west to South Hall to practice for their program which preceded the box supper or cakewalk. Many times it was bitterly cold and the fire had to be built and the hall warmed a little, but still cold to practice in. The ladies donated cakes, apples, kolaches, pies, popcorn balls, etc. Music was furnished by the Thomas Band. \$50 was considered a good profit and many things could be bought in those days.

Homecomings have been held every year since 1950, the 26th being held in 1976. The first two were held in the schoolhouse and since have been held in the Cuba American Legion Hall.

A. C. White lived in the big rock house 1¾ miles South of Cuba. It is now owned by Joe Trecek. It is believed the schoolhouse was named for Mr. White.

Most of this history was compiled in 1950, when the school district disbanded, by Barbara Kolman (Mrs. Steve) and Mrs. Joe Fojt. Miss Emma Klaumann of Scandia supplied some of the information.



Pupils in 1929-30. Teacher Miss Olive Valek. Back Row: Olive Krhounek, Blanche Tuma-White, LeNora Klaumann-Heina, Olive Havel-Shulda, Milo Klima, Eddie Klima, Lodi Tuma, Giles Mottl. Front Row: Viola Krouhounek, Blanche Klima-Lesovsky, Bessie Havel-Krob, Mildred Tuma-Heaps.



Pupils in 1933-34. Back Row: Miss Leda Havel, Teacher; Edd Klima, LeEnora; Klaumann-Heina, Giles Mottl.

Middle Row: Olive Havel-Shulda; Mildred Tuma-Heaps; Viola Krhounek; Blanche Klima-Lesovsky; Leora Svoboda-Havel.

Front Row: Kay Kolman; Bessie Havel-Krob, Orville Havel; Raymond Svoboday; Donald Koss; Pauline Kolman-Wolfe; Donald Kolman.



Pupils in 1941-42: Teacher Letta Huncovsky, Bob Kolman, Lorene Svoboda-Lahodny, Patricia Kolman-Bednar, Irene Klaumann-White Neil Kolman.

#### Teachers at White School, District 29 during the past century

- 1875-76 G.A. Terpening and A.V. Terpening  
Esther Wilson Spring Term
- 1876-77 Esther Wilson June to September, 1876  
Leo Bullen, January 6, Mar. 5, '77
- 1877-78 No fall or winter term appears to have been held.
- 1878-79 No fall or winter term 1878  
May Cooley - Summer term 1878 June- July  
Anna McDonald Summer term 1879. 5 months
- 1879-80 May Cooley Summer 1879 one month  
Anna McDonald Spring term 1879 - No school 1880
- 1881 D.J. Phillips Winter term Jan-Feb. 1881
- 1882 No school 1882
- 1883 Cora Wray Oct. 3-Jan. 19, 1884
- 1884 Maud Mills Oct. 1884

Anna Beckstrom Feb. and April 1884  
 Cora Wray Mar. 20, 1884-one month  
 1885 C.E. Costolo Jan.-Feb.-March Nov. and Dec. 1885  
 1886 C.E. Costolo Jan to April 1886  
 1886-7 W.A. Spooner Aug. 19 - Nov. 15  
 C. W. Shellhammer Jan. 3, 1887  
 C.E. Costelo Mar. - June 25, '87 2 months

1887-88 Jessie Conn 8 months (Severed as Co. Supt. later)  
 1888-89 Jessie Conn 7 months  
 1889-90 C. L. Hogan, 6 months Dec. 1890  
 1890-91 J.R. Conn Mar. and Nov. 1890 Jan., Feb. 1891  
 1891-92 Mary Baker Aug. - Dec. 1891  
 J.R. Conn Dec. - Jan. 1891-92  
 1893-94 Rose Grim 8 months  
 1894-95 Rose Grim 8 months  
 1895-96 Gertie Phelps 7 months  
 1896-97 Stella Baird 8 months  
 1897-98 Wm. Slopansky 8 mos. (Served as Co. Supt. 1909-13)  
 1898-99 Jessie McDonald 7 months  
 1899-1900 Grace Hattie Dannefer 8 months  
 1900-01 Grace Hattie Dannefer 8 months  
 1901-02 Mary Stenger 8 months  
 1902-03 Hattie Danneferr 7 months  
 1903-04 Anna Kennison 7 months  
 1904-05 Frank Jehlik 8 months  
 1905-06 Lillie Seifert 7 months  
 1906-07 Sillie Seifert  
 1907-08 George Cosand  
 1908-09 Jenny Kelly  
 1909-10 Lillie Seifert  
 1910-11 Mary Hostinsky  
 1911-12 Mary Hostinsky  
 1912-13 Bessie Fitts  
 1913-14 Chas. Swiercinsky  
 1914-15 Ora Huntington  
 1915-16 Mary Fitts  
 1916-17 Mary Fitts  
 1917-18 Neoma Harris  
 1918-19 No school - pupils went to Harper  
 1919-20 Mrs. Ben F. Barnett  
 1920-21 Louise M. Barton  
 1921-22 Alberta Opocensky  
 1922-23 Louise M. BAarton  
 1923-24 Louise M. Barton  
 1924-25 Mabel Barton  
 1925-26 Mabel Barton  
 1926-27 Lillie Palacek  
 1927-28 Laura Denk  
 1928-29 Laura Denk  
 1929-30 Olive Valek  
 1930-31 Olive Valek  
 1931-32 Laura Denk  
 1932-33 Frances Huncovsky  
 1933-34 Leda Havel  
 1934-35 Iola Houdek  
 1935-36 Iola Houdek  
 1946-37 Marjorie Bouska  
 1937-38 Marjorie Bouska  
 1938-39 Gladys Hostinsky  
 1939-40 Gladys Hostinsky  
 1940-41 Mrs. Ray Johnson  
 George W. Saip  
 1941-42 Letha Huncovsky  
 1942-43 Letha Huncovsky

1943-44 Olive Valek-Fojt  
 1944-45 Marie Sonntag  
 1945-46 Marie Sonntag  
 1946-47 Mildred Bormet  
 1947-48 Mildred Bormet  
 1948-49 Mildred Bormet  
 1949-50 Virginia Kopsa (Recchio)  
 1950 School closed

This record shows 52 different teachers during the 75 years and a reversal in time of service from three teachers in one year, to one teacher Mildred Bormet who taught three consecutive years. In 1880 and 1882 no school seems to have been held. Money was hard to get. Only two months, Jan. and Feb., are shown to have school in 1881.



#### DISTRICT 30 — MAPLE GROVE SCHOOL

In 1871 the first meeting was held to organize District 30. It included Sections 4,5,6,7,8,9, 16, 17, 18 of Albion Township. The Mapel Grove Schoolhouse was located about the middle of the east side of Section 7. This is 2 miles west and 1½ miles north of Narka.

At the Annual Meeting held March 28, 1872 the following persons were duly elected and qualified as officers of said district for the ensuing year: A.H. Johnson, director; C. W. Hodgkin, clerk; and J.H. Bradd, treasurer. The following year on May 26, the present boundary was set - Sections 4, 5, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18, 6, 7, of Albion Township. By January 12, 1875 there were the same boundaries, but on November 26, of that year the SW¼ of Section 18 was detached from the district at the request of petitioners. (Above picture courtesy of Orell Davidson).

In 1894 Della Terpenning of Narka taught Maple Grove for \$35 per month and there was 9 months of school. The Board members were: G.W. Edwards, D.Y. Wilson, and N.C. Ward - all of Narka.

There were 31 pupils in 1930-31 according to the souvenir given by Miss Mary Anthony that year. (We count 21 in this picture.) The names were: Alfred Smith, Joe Fiala, Evelyn Brabec, Viola Graham, Dale Maxson, Olga Brabec, Eugene Ginn, Dean Coonrod, Chester McChesney, Lucile Palmer,, Geneva Walker, Arlene Smith, Archie Walker, Fern Maxson, George Zakostelsky, Loyd Maxson, Doyle Ginn, Warren McChesney, Pauline Palmer, Delbert Smith, Clyde Smith, Emigene Palmer, Lloyd Derowitsch, Ival Brabec, Rosalie



Zakostelsky, Helen Maxson, Jay Walker, John Smith, Marvin Palmer, Melvin Walker and Bennie Walker.

Clare C. Baldwin was the County Superintendent and the Board members were: R.A. Smith clerk, I.W. Coonrod treasurer, and Charley Brabec, director.

During the term of 1943-44 Garnet Davidson taught this school. In 1950-51 these pupils were transported to other districts: Loren Mach, Harold Rhinehart, Gerayne and Robert Larsen. The Board members were: Charles Mach, Dean Coonrod and Verne Rhinehart.

Due to the low enrollment, a special meeting on Feb. 6, 1952 was held to annex District 30 to District 15 Midway. Donna Mach was Maple Grove's last teacher. The schoolhouse was moved to a more central location, but the Midway name and District 15 was retained.



Mrs. Hazel Mulch has loaned us this picture with the total enrollment of 17 pupils: back row - Robert Cottam,

Sharon Coonrod, Mary Ann Kelley, Betty Marhenka, Loren Mach, Mary Lou Cottam.

Middle row: Rosetta Ellis, Lorena Meyer, Bill Young, a boy, Galen Meyer, Nancy Young, Joyce Coonrod.

Front row: Kenny Coonrod, Doug Gertis and Bobby Meyer.

This combined district held school until 1959 when the patrons voted to annex to Narka Grade School. Dorothy Novotny was the last teacher and the last pupils to attend Midway-Maple Grove School were; Veronica Wilcox, Kenneth Hammerbacher, Lynn and Ivan Coonrod, Carol and Gary Shepek, Kenneth Coonrod, Larry and Charles Beeson. The last Board members were: Charles Mach, Ernest Kvasnicka and Reuben Coonrod.



Top left to right: Blanche Blecha, Blanche Lovci, Vlasta Mach, Glen Hudson, Charley Mach, Verne Rhinehart, Joe Mach. Next Row - Helen Lovci, Lucille Baker, Anna Mach, Nettie Godden, Keith Baker, Wesley Coonrod. Lower Left - Lynn Dovel.



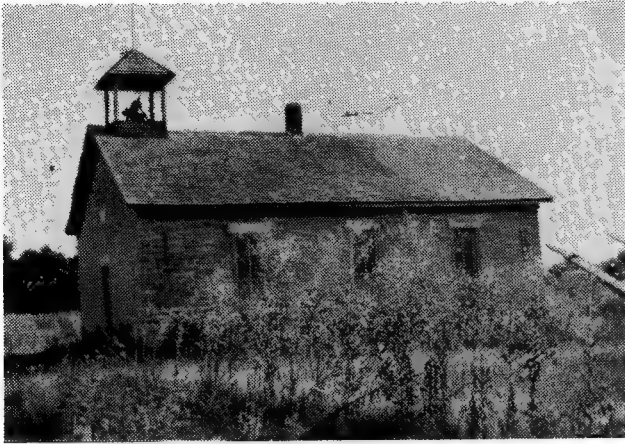
Maple Grove No. 30 Old and New Schoolhouse.

### 31 METER

For the early history of this early school the reader is invited to turn of Original 5 District which consisted of all of Elk Creek Township and the south half of Richland. In April of 1871, the records show that Meter School District 31 was organized, including the southeast part of Richland the north east part of Elk Creek Townships. So far as we can determine, this stone school house is the only one that Meter School ever had. It is located about midway on the east side of Section 26 in Richland Township, four miles east and two and one-half south of Cuba.

This school house was built from material that was accessible to its location—native wood and native rock. It





still stands, strong and sturdy, in part, trying to withstand the elements of time.

Several generations of one family can recall pleasant memories associated with Meter. Its site was originally given by Joseph and Barbara Kalivoda. Their children—Stella (Pugh), Emma (Baxa), Mary (Houdek) and Charles all attended school at Meter. Mary later returned as a young teacher. As years went by this same site and its surrounding area was owned by a daughter, Emma Baxa. Her son, Elmer Baxa, was next in line. The original contract stated that when the school disorganized it would revert back to the land and its present owner who is Elmer's son, Don Baxa. Hopefully, his daughters, Diane and Danelle, a fifth generation, will continue to have an interest in the site of the original Meter school that was given by their great-great grand parents, Kalivodas, for the educational purpose of future generations.

Earliest records show that the board members in 1871 were: W.H. Willoughby, G.A. Willoughby, and Joseph Thomas. In 1872 on March 28, G.W. Williams was chosen director, William J. Root as clerk and Isaac G. Melton as treasurer.



There is strength and sturdiness in the native rock of Kansas that reminds each of us of our pioneer ancestors. They, too, were strong and sturdy. This is a picture of pupils in Meter in 1895-1896. Miss Buella Pichard was the teacher.

In the back row are Vina Williams, Alice Williams, Buella Pichard-teacher, Lidof Pichard and Lillie Williams. In the middle row are Leonard Williams, Bell

Williams, Emma Kalivoda-Baxa, and Nell Williams. The front row completes the picture and consists of Julia Kalivoda, (Stella Melton and Pearl Strong-uncertain), Mary Kalivoda-Houdek, Barbara Kalivoda-Moore, Stella Kalivoda-Pugh, Annie Kopsa, Charles Kalivoda.



Mrs. Steve Kalivoda has shared this picture of Meter School interior which was taken about 1904-5.

A 1909 School Souvenir gives us the teacher Agnes Bergstrom and the pupils as follows: Laura Bula, Lawrence, Tillie, Frankie, Eddie, Charlie, and Lewis Kopsa; Mary, Lillie Emma and Rosa Kauer; Leona, Edith and Clarence Klaumann; Reuben and Jet Turner; Ralph Kalivoda; Florence Applegarth; Annie, Walter and Fred Oliver; Lizzie, Matilda, Willie and Frankie Schneberger; Edward and Arthur Bergstrom; and Jay Flemming. School board members were C.P. Bergstrom, J. Havel and E. Schneberger.

Miss Elizabeth McCracken taught here in 1913-14. Her pupils were: Arvid, George, Susie and Eva Bergstrom; Elmer Baxa, Eva, Cecil and Myra Ettleman; Clifford and Russel Gieber; Emma and Stella Kauer; Beulah, Laura, Lawrence, Louis, Frankie, Eddie and Frances Kopsa; Robert Mason; Leland Walton; Frances and Frankie Havel.

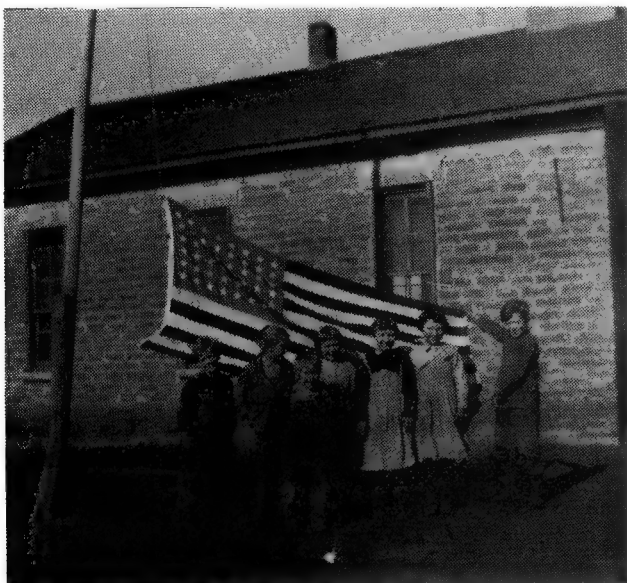
Yes, the country kids of years ago did play basketball. The court was not air-conditioned, nor did it have central heating but there was fresh air and sunshine overhead, and maybe a snowbank that was melting a bit on the



court, but play basketball they did! This picture taken in 1922-1923, was loaned by Mrs. Earl Knedlik. In the back row are: Ed Baxa, Wesley Kauer, Eddie Valek, Susie Bergstrom, Charlie Bergstrom, jr., Eva Bergstrom, Mary Walton, Grace Ryman-teacher. In the middle row are: Elmer Kauer, Della Bergstrom, and Gayle

Wranosky. Front row: Viola Baxa, Warren Wranosky, Gladys Kalivoda, Orland Bergstrom and Betty Kalivoda.

How very fitting to show Meter students proudly displaying their country's flag this Bi-Centennial year! It was a real privilege when you were asked to help the teacher anchor the flag to the rope and carefully pull it to the top of the flag pole. In the back row are: Carl Bergstrom, Orland Bergstrom, Betty Kalivoda (Close)-(Lang), Viola Baxa (Brabec), Gladys Kalivoda (Knedlik), Ronald Bergstrom. Victor Bergstrom is standing in front. This was taken about 1924-25.



In 1928-29, Leota McNemar taught Meter. Her pupils were Lester, Esther, Victor and Orland Bergstrom; Leo Buckman; Viola Baxa; and Dewey Nemec. Helen Doupnik taught here in 1929-30.

Miss Alma Bergstrom taught in 1934-35. The pupils were James Lawson, Isabelle, Lester, and Esther Bergstrom; Alma Anderson; Betty Kopsa and Leon Lahodny.

The children of the Charley Bergstrom family were the envy of the students at Meter when it came to lunch time. They lived close to the schoolhouse so they had a hot lunch at noon and the rest had the usual fare that went in a syrup bucket with a sturdy handle. (You haven't lived until you have eaten a cold fried egg between two thick slices of Mom's homemade bread). Often though, the lid was not securely put on and in the active progress toward school, the lid somehow fell off and the lunch fell out of the pail. The teacher usually found some food that she had too much of, and the hungry pupil did not starve before the end of school that day.

It was always a race as to who could get to the bottom branches of that huge old tree that stood northwest of the schoolhouse where we ate our lunch and often did a little swapping of food.

Miss Mildred Kalivoda taught 31 in 1941-42. Idan Kauer, Clayton Kauer, Dale Baxa, Edward Havel and Gayle Kauer were the pupils. The 1945 Educational Directory shows Meter taught by Mrs. Maxine Zenger and the enrollment was six pupils. The board members were Wesley Kauer, Stanley Baxa and Rudolph Blecha.

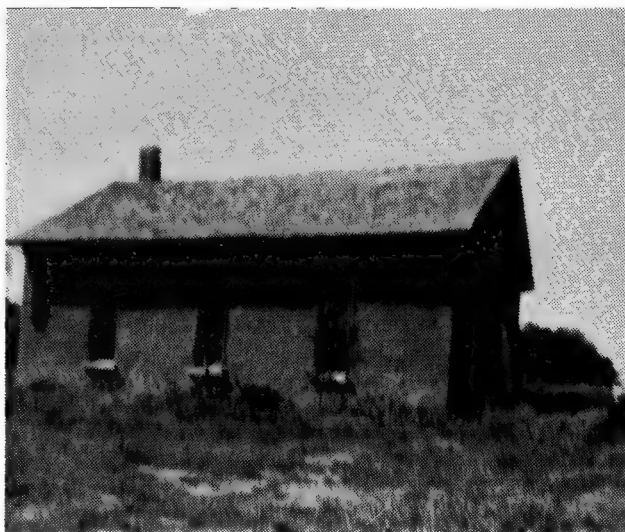
You do remember the fabric and trinket peddler that

often brought his wares to every farm home in the community, don't you? Often the identical pattern would be chosen by the mothers in the area. It was not uncommon to buy an entire bolt if there were several to sew for. What fun it was when several girls in the same school had dresses of like material!

Really the girls of today are not as mod as they think they are! They have just borrowed some trends that were in existence years ago. The pierced ears, for instance—look closely at those old pictures—many very young girls had pierced ears! And clunky shoes! Believe me, every girl of past years wore clunky shoes! and those long-legged underwear were a far cry from the sheer panty hose of today. It was the lesser of two evils when it came to long legged underwear. You either wore them in horrid bumps under your cotton stockings or rolled them up to a big wad above your knees. Every girl knew they must be rolled back down before she reached the driveway of her home in the evening.

Meter School District 31 was disorganized in 1950 and then consolidated with 51 Bates School to organize Bates Con. 228. Then the Bates Con. 228 was disorganized April 18, 1961 to become a part of Unified District 455.

The last teacher was Miss Gayle Mae Kauer. The Board Members were: Elmer Kauer, Frank M. Havel and Rudy Blecha. Those in the first grade were Betty Taylor and Paul Blecha; in the second grade was Bill Howley; Ronald Taylor in the Sixth Grade; Jean Taylor and Larry Howley in the Seventh Grade and Kathryn Havel and Bob Blecha were in the Eighth Grade.



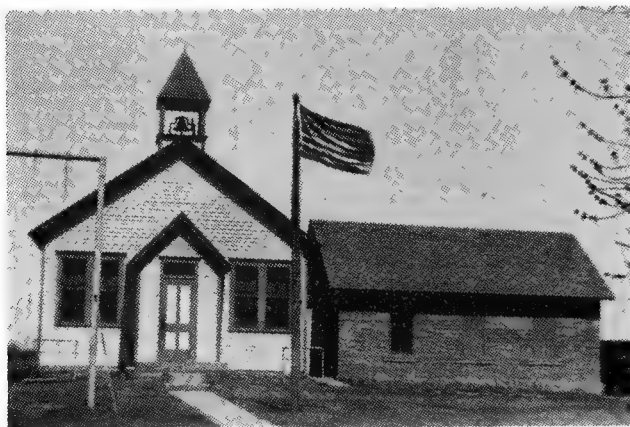
This picture was taken the day of the sale by Frank M. Havel in 1951, near the end of the year. Notice the belfry is gone and the chimney is located at the left side of the roof. The early picture has the chimney right in the middle of the roof. Mr. Havel recalls that one time, the stove pipe being straight up, became so hot, there was danger of the wainscoting on the ceiling catching on fire. The children threw snowballs up and succeeded in averting a fire! Mr. Havel also recalls there were three generations of Havels attending this school. James S. Havel, his father, then Frank M. and his sister Frances Klabzuba. And the last generation, Frank's son, Edward F. Havel and Daughter Katherine Wilber.

This last picture taken April 1975 by Mary Alice Havel is a reminder that in time, Mother Nature takes over,



heals, and returns to its own all accomplishments of mankind.

But—the beautiful memories of the rural school by far over-shadowed the little worries that came to every student that ever attended Meter School.



**DISTRICT 32 — Oak creek school**  
Compiled by Herman A. Kuhn  
in April 1961

Norway Township was organized April 3, 1871, at which time the following officers were appointed: John Hull, Trustee; G.G. Burk, clerk; Noble Rogers, Treasurer. The land in the valley east of the river (Republican) was settled mostly by a colony from eastern Indiana in 1871, consisting of Swedish, Danish and Norwegian settlers. The prairie west of the river was mostly taken in 1872, but there was no colony about this, because nearly every country of Europe was represented at one time or another.

There were some drifters and speculators here before this but they did not want to settle down. They sold out to anyone who would pay a small amount or trade something of small value; rumors of a pair of boots, a shotgun, yoke of oxen, team wagon and harness, etc.

The first permanent house was built of stone by Jens Peterson for L.H. Tyrel. It measured 10 ft. by 12 ft. inside and had two rooms and a board floor. This was the only home to have a board floor anywhere near. All others

were soddies or dug-outs and had dirt floors. There were two small holes in the east wall about seven feet high and about six inches square. They were used for peep holes and to shoot through. The land to the east was covered with trees and the Indians could get up close without being seen. The door was in the north as that side was open to prairie and the Indians would not come out in the open. This place was used for a dwelling, a post office, liquor store, dance hall, and general meeting place. It is located about one and a half mile southeast of the school house on the SW part of the NW¼ of Section 32 - 4 - 4. The walls are all that is left now in 1961. When it was built in 1868, shake shingles or hand-split shingles were used. Very few permanent settlers were here.

Winfield Scott got a patent to his land in 1873 which meant he had been living there five years. Several got patents in 1877.

In May, 1871, District 32 was organized by the election of officers: L.S. Palmer, director: Winfield Scott, clerk; George Miller, treasurer. It was composed of Sections 1, 12, 13, 24, 25 and 36 in Beaver Township and all of Norway Township west of the river.

The same officers were chosen in 1872 and at a special meeting on January 21, 1873, Jacob Hull was elected director. On Jan. 29, 1873, Sections 1, 12, and 13 were detached and on July 19, 1873, Hungry Hollow District 95 was organized.

The first schools were subscription schools and were held at different places in the district wherever room could be found in dug-outs or soddies. At one time school was held in Jake Hull's house and Mrs. Hull was the teacher. There is a record of two teachers, W.H. Benson and Julie E. Harding, but no record of where they taught in 1875 and 1876. It is said that Julie E. Harding taught two terms in Hungry Hollow so this may be the reason there is no record here.

The stone part of the building today was built in 1880 by George Kackley for \$268.50 and was the first schoolhouse.

The first school meeting was held August 12, 1880, at 2:00 p.m. in the schoolhouse. It was moved that the term of school taught this year be accepted, so this would have to be the spring term. John Gardner was elected director and they voted 2½ mills for incidental fund and 2½ mills for teacher fund. Apparently, they did not know how much money this would bring in as they generally voted to have school as long as the money lasted.

James Nelson was elected clerk in 1879 and was re-elected twelve times. C.R. Nelson was elected one term, Lowell Houghton for one term and H.A. Kuhn for eight terms.

J.M. Gardner was followed by James Peacock, N.C. Christensen, H.A. Hansen, Albert Sandine, Myron Kellogg, and Gladys Kuhn.

George Peterson, treasurer was followed by L.W. Reid, H.A. Hansen, S. McCall, John Hanson, H.K. Hanson, R.A. Burns, Hannah Pearson, Gladys Hansen, and Wayne Sutton.

Church and Sunday School were held in the schoolhouse before a church was built nearby.

In the early days school was divided into spring and fall terms and sometimes each term had a different teacher.

The first teachers were paid \$24.00 per month and they did their janitor work. This was true of all the



teachers. Coal, wood, and cobs were used for fuel until in later years an oil-burning stove heated the classroom.

At one time thirty-seven pupils were enrolled and one was twenty-five years old. He came to learn the English language.

The records cover 68 years and in that time there have been 263 pupils enrolled and 39 different teachers:

1880	Lizzie Merica	
1881	E.E. Lathrop	3 mos. beginning if February
	Marien Andrews	4 mos. beginning in October
1882	Mary E. Kingsley	6 mos. beginning in September
1883	Eliza M. King	4 mos. beginning in September
1884	Louise M. Ireland	beginning in November
1885	Alma Boyd	6 mos. beginning in October
1886	Onie Glasgow	3 mos. beginning in October
1887	Louise M. Ireland	3 mos. beginning in January
1887	Clara L. Thomas	5 mos. beginning in September
1888	Lizzie W. Beatty	2 mos. beginning in February
1888	Jennie Kingsley	beginning in September
1889	C.M. Houghton	8 mos.
1890	Lizzie W. Beatty	7 mos.
1891	C.M. Houghton	
1892	D.A. Beatty	4 mos.
1893	C.A. Melton	2 mos. in spring
1893	Nelson Smith	
1894	C.M. Houghton	7 mos.
1895	Hattie Murphy	7 mos.
1896	Hattie Murphy	7 mos.
1897	Stella Murphy	7 mos.
1898	C.N. Smith	
1899	Myrtle Murphy	7 mos.
1900	Mertie Murphy	7 mos.
1901	Mertie Murphy	7 mos.
1902	Charley Kellogg	
1903	Charley Kellogg	
1904	Grace Phillips	
1905	Daisy Simpson	
1906	Daisy Simpson	
1908	Eric Larson	
1909	inclusive to 1915 Boline Hanson with Hattie Garmon finishing the last term	
1916	Katherine Fletcher	
1917	Katherrine Fletcher	
1918	Boline Hanson	
1919-1920	Clarence McGregor	
1921	Emma J. Stevens	
1922	Mabel Meyer	
1923	Grace Street also 1924 and 1925	
1926	Mildred Campbell	
1927	Lena Holgerson	
1928	Frank O.Cooper	
1929	Lillian Hultquist	
1930-1931	Anna Donohoe	
1932	including 1938 Burnice Pearson	
1939	including 1943 Mrs. Doris D. Smith	
1944	Mrs. Burnice Pearson-Jensen	
1945	Ruth Hedstrom	

Of these teachers Boline Hanson taught eight years, also Mrs. Burnice Pearson-Jensen taught eight years, Mrs. Doris D. Smith taught five eyars, and C.M. Houghton and Grace Street, taught three years each.

School usually began at nine in the morning and dismissed at four with one hour for noon and two fifteen minute recesses. But we note that in 1886 at a special

board meeting in November the Board voted to have school begin ten minutes earlier with ten minute recesses and dismiss ten minutes after four. Evidently, this did not work out well as on December 29, they had another meeting and went back to the conventional time.

During the years, the Christensen family had the most pupils enrolled - 23 Holgersons - 16 enrolled and Nelsons - 14 for third honors. These were third generations.

The school grounds were purchased from Gustave Peterson and wife in 1884 for \$20.00. The new frame part was added to the old rock schoolhouse in 1894 and C.M. Houghton taught the first term in it and lived in the rock part.



In 1899 when Miss Mertie Murphy was the teacher, this picture show Oak Creek School the original windows with their shutters. Shutters were later removed and there were continuous windows on the west side and on each side of the door were double windows. It will be difficult to see who these pupils are, so we will show this picture taken the same day on the north side of the school.



First row: (seated) left to right - Homer Christensen, Alfred Paulsen, Carl Rambo, Otto Jorgensen.

Second row: Ethel Morehead, Della Rambo, Bonie Hansen (seated), Norma Decker, Miss Mertie Murphy teacher (seated), Sadie Decker, Laura Sandine (seated) and Herbert Christensen.



Third row: Carl Jorgensen, Anton Hanson, Verna Armstrong, Elmer Morehead, Hannah Holgerson, Bertha Paulsen, Alma Christensen, Emma Paulsen and Mary Jorgensen.

Back row: Hans K. Hanson, Homer Decker, Vern Decker, Claud Hansen who later became State Senator during the 40's, Peter Jorgensen and Eugene Decker.



For eight years Miss Boline Hanson taught Oak Creek and was much loved by everyone. Here is a picture of her school during the term of 1918 and 1919 when the pupils were at the "Giant Stride" and the swings south of the schoolhouse by the bank of Oak Creek.



This picture gives a close-up of the same children on the steps of the schoolhouse: Front row, left to right: Virgil Kuhn, Eva Pearson (Kuhn), Allen Kellogg, Mary Holgerson (Sutton), Alice Holgerson (Rhinehart), Lucille Burns (Emig), Florence Holgerson (Nichols), Lenore Sandine (Shepherd), Eunice Sandine (Harlan).

Second row: Tony Kuhn, Richard Nelson, Bertha Kellogg (McClanahan), Amy Holgersonn (Gile), Melvin Kellogg, Burnice Pearson (Jensen), Elizabeth Bruns (Champlin).

Back row: Chris Gertsen, Levi Holgerson, Myron Holgerson, Ida Iverson (Thompson), Julia Holgerson (Gile), Jettie Gertsen (Green), Miss Boline Hanson teacher.

During the five years Mrs. Doris Smith taught here Carol Kellogg under the NYA (National Youth Authority) worked for 25 cents per hour for four hours each day to serve hot lunches to the school in the the old stone part. Surplus commodities came to the school and she was a genius at serving most nutritious meals cooked on the old coal range. This was the beginning of the federal school lunch program.



Capes and Caps were in order when the Rhythm Band went into action in 1939-40. Mrs. Doris D. Smith was the teacher. Left to right are: Frances Lundblade, Arlene Peterson, Dorothy Houghton, Audrey Houghton, Clarice Christensen, Marilyn Christensen (on the "podium"), Evalyn Christensen, Madeline Houghton, Charles Houghton, Alvin Lundblade.

In earlier years literary and debating societies met here and community meetings have been held here quite regularly during the winter months even after the school closed in the spring of 1946. There has always been a strong community tie of friendship which has held the community together.

When enrollment was down to six pupils in 1946, then pupils were transported to District 221 at Kackley. Farming methods had changed so much that the 40 or 80 acre farms had long been consolidated to make it more economical to use the large machinery. Population became more sparse and state laws and regulations were making it necessary for a decision to be reached between voluntary annexation and compulsory disorganization. Thus, at the annual meeting in 1951 District 32 voted to annex to District 221 with the provision that they could have possession of the Oak Creek School property as long as they held meetings there.

Today we came to view the spot  
Where Oak Creek School, on an acre lot,  
Had blessed her patrons, each and all,  
Through her open door, when they came to call.

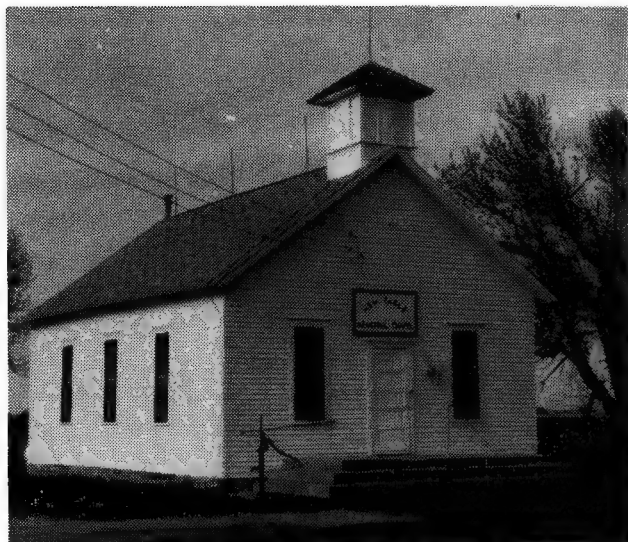
Today I heard the Requiem played,  
For they'd buried her within the glade!  
She'd lived her time, and served us well'-  
What greater thing is there to tell!

March 13, 1976  
Doris D. Smith

#### TABOR SCHOOL DISTRICT 33

The earliest days of Tabor School, its beginning in the area and in the township finds many doubts. These doubts in the history and its confusion makes writing Tabor's school history difficult. History, stories of the earliest day and early court house records cause differences and questionable datings.

Fairview Township was established January 4, 1871.



History states that the first settlement of the township was in 1870. Also, that within a year, thru 1871, the whole township was settled. Joseph Northup was one of the first settlers and was the first trustee of the township. But-court house records show that D.M. Steele homesteaded there in 1863. He received his patent on December 4, 1868. He homesteaded the whole section 23 and also section 32.

History states that the first school in Fairview Township was in a dugout in SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 30. This school had no name or district number. It was taught by Mary Dixon in the spring of 1872. This was a subscription school and the school terms were for three months each. This was prior to the organization of any school districts in the township. All of the children's names that went to this school are not available, some known are:

William Ryan	Mary Hill	William Guthrie
Rosetta Ryan	Nancy Guthrie	John Hawkins
Lincoln Hill	Mary Guthrie	

This school was located a little over 3 miles west of present Tabor School. Its exact location is unknown, but believed to be on the east side of section 30 along the road. Later in this near-by area Hill School 21 was built. Children from the New Tabor area and other areas attended this dugout school.

The first record for School District 33 was for sections 22, 23, 24-25, 26, 27-34, 35, 36, in T 2 S and R 2 W. This made the SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Fairview Township all in District 33. Later 13, 14, 15 ere added. After this, many changes were made over many years. Most lands later detached. This district first met in May of 1871. Officers then elected were:

William J. Roole - Direcotr  
J.A. Kellum - Clerk  
S. J. Gott - Treasurer

The next meeting on March 28, 1872 then the following were elected:

Robert Calvert + Director  
J. Hooser - Clerk  
S.J. Gott - Treasurer

There is no mention that a school building was built at this time. Nor do we find any records when the school was actually built or classes started. It is known that Tabor School is the only school in Republic County that was a

town school and also a country school on the same location.

The town New Tabor (never named as Tabor) was laid out in early 1870 in the SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 23. There then was a Tabor in Clay County in Kansas. The post office then was first known as Prairie Plain, opened on Spetember 23, 1870. On March 12, 1875 it was changed to New Tabor. Then it was later closed on February 20, 1888.

D.M. Steele, the homesteader of the land, made a warranty deed on June 15, 1878 to the Town Company of New Tabor, for the land of the new town. Later on April 3, 1883 the New Tabor Town Company deeded by a warranty deed one acre in the west half of the SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 23 to School District 33.

Frank Dolezal tells of his parents saying that the Tabor School was first built at the southwest corner of the town site. Because water drainage, water standing and mud, the building was moved north near the northwest corner of the town site. Today, Tabor School, District 33 still stands at this location.

After the school was built, it was also used for church services, for the area. History states that the origin of the Munden Presbyterian Church is traced back to the year of 1873. Then the first funeral among the settlers was in the area, bringing the settlers to realize that a church was needed. After a few meetings a central location was decided upon in New Tabor. It is stated that then, "music and religious songs were learned at the New Tabor School house". This is our first and only knowledge when Tabor School was built. So it is believed built in the years of 1873 or 1874.

In 1887 we find the first school records in teacher's day books. School then was held thru the full year. Each term was for 3 months, then a month vacation. The records over the years are vague. The rapid turnover in children and family names is noticeable, even during these short 3-month terms. Also it is surprising to see that during each term the girls and the boys are listed separately. Then, again, we see names that predominate even thru the years to the present time in the area. The children's names for one year of three separate terms are as follows:

1887 — Teacher, William K. Walters. — 1st term.

Start, January 3, 1887 - ending March 25, 1887 — April vacation:

Pupils - Girls - 27

Lottie Kasl	Mary Kuchera	Mary Peterka
Mary Kindt	Sophie Washichek	Annie Peterka
Flora Woodhouse	Annie Washichek	Emma Lahodny
Dora Woodhouse	Julia Skocdopole	Rosa Kuchera
May Woodhouse	Rosie Skockopole	Mary Hanel
Lela Gott	Josie Filinger	Della Kasl
Annie Kuchera	Myrtie Wegal	Rosa Washichek
Millie Kuchera	Annie Jansky	Mary Chermoc
Annie Kuchera	Mary Nemec	Rosa Strumfa

Pupils - Boys - 38,

Lee Gott	James Peterka	Joseph Kasl
Julius Gott	Joseph Rundus	Willie Kuchera
John Kindt	William Brosh	Wesley Kuchera
Robert Kindt	John Brosh	John Washchek
Allen Woodhouse	Wesley Brosh	Joseph Washichek
John Skocdopole	Joseph Week	Eddie Washichek
Joseph Skocdopole	John Week	Wesley Washichek
Joseph Peterka	Joseph Hanel	Charles Kobes

James Peeples	Joseph Peters	Frank Hanel
Frank Lahodny	Ross Gott	George Hanel
Irvin Kindt	Charles Ramsey	Joseph Klimish
Frank Woltman	Willie Kuchera	Willie Klimish
Frank Week	Timothy Rundus	

1887 — Teacher, Lulu Thompson. — 2nd term.

Satart, May 2, 1887 - ending July 25, 1887 — August vacation:

Pupils - Girls - 31,		Anna Chermoc
Dora Woodhouse	Myrtie Wegal	Mollie Kindt
Mary Woodhouse	Anna Kuchera	Rachel Kindt
Cora Lugenbill	Mollie Kuchera	Della Kasl
Mary Peterka	Anna Kuchera	Mary Strenard
Anna Peterka	Mary Kuchera	Emma Lahodny
Anna Washichek	Rosa Kuchera	Lela Gott
Rosa Washichek	Carrie Smith	Anna Nemets
Mary Nemets	Sophia Washichek	Ruth Moore
Julius Skocdopole	Mary Hanel	Anna Jansky
Rosa Skocdopole	Mary Klima	Frances Kuchera

Pupils - Boys - 22,		Joe Peterka
Joe Washichek	Wesley Kuchera	Frank Week
Eddie Washichek	Willie Kuchera	Frank Woltman
Joe Skocdopole	John Wshichek	Robert Kindt
Ross Gott	Timothy Rundus	John Nemets
Wesley Washichek	Joe Hanel	Edgar Moore
Wesley Brosh	George Hanel	Frank Hanel
James Peterka	John Jansky	Willie Kuchera

1887 — Teacher, Lulu Thompson. — 3rd term.

Start, September 5, 1887 - ending November 25, 1887 — December vacation.

Pupils - Girls - 27,		
Anna Kuchera	Anna Jansky	Mary Klima
Sophia Washichek	Mary Peterka	Dora Woodhouse
Lela Gott	Anna Washichek	Mollie Kindt
Myrtie Wegal	Rosa Washichek	Mary Hanel
Mollie Kuchera	Rosa Kuchera	Josie Filingier
Anna Kuchera	Mary Chermac	Mary Woodhouse
Julia Skocdopole	Della Kasl	Carrie Smith
Mary Kuchera	Anna Peterka	Ruth Moore
Rosa Skocdopole	Emma Lahodny	Rachel Kindt

Pupils - Boys 23,		
Joe Skocdopole	Wesley Jansky	Timothy Rundus
Edd Washichek	Wesley Brosh	Wesley Kuchera
Arthur Washichek	Willie Kuchera	Frank Week
Joe Washichek	Wesley Washichek	Frank Hanel
Johnie Stepanek	Joseph Wasichek	George Hanel
Arthur Stepanek	John Washichek	John Week
Willie Stepanek	Will Kuchera	Robert Kindt
Ross Gott	John Skocdopole	

On January 2, 1888, Lulu Thompson started another year as the teacher of another season of 3-month terms. These books are badly damaged and many of the sheets are missing. From the best information we can find she had 12 visitors during these terms that she taught. From what we can locate these visitors were:

Alice Stepanek	Mary Kuchera	Mr. Rankin
Josie Washichek	Mr. Kindt	Josie Washichek
Lottie Kasl	Mr. Sneider	Anna Nemets
Fannie Filingier	Mrs. Ramsbottom	Mrs. Wegal

Then she had listed 43 signatures on the last day of school.

The term of 1918-19 Olive Waltman was the teacher. Her term started September 9, 1918 and ended in April of 1919. The unusual thing happening during her term was that she had 28 pupils and also 28 visitors. The pupils were as follows:

Mollie Hanel	Helen Stepanek	Lorin Kasper
Elsia Hanel	Irene Stepanek	Jerry Dosedlo
Clarence Hanel	Pete Drapal	Frank Dosedlo
Leona Stransky	Emery Bartak	Henry Dosedlo
George Stransky	Mary Bartak	Mary Homalac
Johnnie Peterka	Frank Dolezal	John Homalac
Robert Keene	Elmer Dolezal	John Overman
Dorothy Keene	Albina Popelka	Charles Popelka
Frank Filingier	Johnnie Divin	
Anna Filingier	George Divin	

Her visitors were as follows:

George A. Filingier, Cuba, Sept. 16  
 Inez Stepanek, Munden, Sept. 21  
 Mary Drapal, Cuba, Nov. 12  
 Mary Drapal, Cuba, Nov. 15  
 Mary Filingier, Cuba, Nov. 29  
 Inez Stepanek, Munden, Nov. 29  
 Helen Stepanek, Munden, Nov. 29  
 John Kuchera, Cuba, Nov. 29  
 Elsie Filingier, Cuba, Nov. 29  
 Anna Kuchera, Cuba, Dec. 6  
 Dott Kuchera, Cuba, Dec. 6  
 Lorene Kuchera, Belleville, Dec. 6  
 Helen Stepanek, Munden, Dec. 6  
 Helen Stepanek, Munden, Dec. 6  
 Laura Stepanek, Cuba, Dec. 10  
 Clarence Overman, Munden, Dec. 11  
 Mrs. Edward Kasper, Cuba, Dec. 12  
 Clarence Overman, Munden, Dec. 12  
 Nettie Dolezal, Belleville, Dec. 21  
 Mrs. Frank Dosedlo, Munden, Dec. 21  
 Mrs. Pete Drapal, Belleville, Dec. 21  
 Stanley Bartak, Belleville, Jan. 16  
 Mary Jansky, Co. Supt., Belleville, Feb. 27  
 Nettie Dolezal, Belleville, Mar. 5  
 Stanley Bartak, Belleville, Mar. 11  
 Mary Drapal, Belleville, Mar. 18  
 Robert Keene, Cuba, Apr. 14  
 Robert Keene, Cuba, Apr. 14  
 Robert Keene, Cuba, Apr. 17  
 Helen Stepanek, Munden, Apr. 21.

Records of early days of Tabor School before 1887 cannot be found. When Tabor School was built and classes started we have no way of knowing as a certainty. So we will start listing the teachers from 1887, the oldest records we find. There are 5 terms for which we cannot find the teacher's names. Also, we may have missed some teachers' names of these 3-month terms. We do not know when these terms started or when they ended. Then there were 5 terms when no school was held, children went to other districts. To the best of our knowledge the years and teachers' names as follows are correct. The year mentioned is the beginning of each term. The numbers following with a V are visitors.

1887 - William K. Walters  
 1887 - Lulu Thompson  
 1888 - F.E. Way

1888 - V.D. Bullen  
 1889 - Ada Long  
 1890 - Frank Rundus  
 1891 - H.E. Moore  
 1892 - M.B. Simon  
 1893 -  
 1894 - W. K. Walters  
 1895 - Harley West  
 1896 -  
 1897 -  
 1898 -  
 1899 - Estella E. Baird  
 1899 - Marie Strnad  
 1900 - Maggie Stainbrook  
 1901 - Bessie Houdek  
 1902 - C.W. Rundus  
 1903 - Antha Strnad  
 1904 - Joseph L. Davis  
 1905 - Anna Strnad  
 1906 - Olive Strnad  
 1907 - E.E. Zavodsky  
 1908 - Mildred Houdek  
 1909 - Mildred Houdek  
 1910 - Viola Ramsey  
 1911 - Grace Bazant  
 1912 - Grace Bazant  
 1913 - Grace Bazant  
 1914 - Charles J. Filingier  
 1915 - Agnes Mapes  
 1916 - Anna Kuchera  
 1917 - Olive Waltman  
 1918 -  
 1919 - George A. Filingier - 10 v  
 1920 - Mollie M. Kuchera - 45 v  
 1921 - Isis Brewer - 23 v  
 1922 - Miss Olive Evans - 28 v  
 1923 - Lottie C. Barton - 29 v  
 1924 - Helen Bushby - 6 v  
 1925 - Helen (Bushby) Scott  
 1926 - Miss Georgie Blanchard - 6 v  
 1927 - Mrs. Ethel Rust - 32 v  
 1927 - Mrs. Ethel Rust - 32 v  
 1928 - Mrs. Ethel Rust  
 1929 - Anne Filingier - 16 v  
 1930 - Anne Filingier - 16 v  
 1930 - Anne Filingier - 16 v  
 1931 - Mollie Vesely - 20 v  
 1932 - Anne Filingier - 36 v  
 1932 - Anne Filingier - 36 v  
 1933 - Anne Filingier - 10 v  
 1934 - Zelma (Doebele) Jones  
 1934 - Dorothy Mitchell - 11 v  
 1935 - Dorothy Mitchell - 18 v  
 1936 - Alma Bergstrom - 6 v  
 1937 - Alma Bergstrom - 7 v  
 1938 - Louisa Baxa - 13 v  
 1939 - Louisa Hanel - 2 v  
 1940 - Helen Kadlec - 11 v  
 1941 - Helen Kadlec -  
 1942 - Marie Vytlac - 5 v

Do you recall Longfellow's poem about "The Barefoot Boy" - "with thy turned-up pantaloons, and thy merry-whistled tunes, From my heart I give thee joy, I was once a barefoot boy". Here they are - in Anna Kuchera-Janousek's school in 1916 right on the front row: Elmer



Dolezal, Joe Homolac, Frank Filingier, Emery Bartak and Peter Drapel. Middle row: Clarence Hanel, Mary Bartak, Anne Filingier, Irene Stepanek, Elsie Hanel and Albina Popelka. Back row are: John Kuchera, Stanley Bartak, Nettie Dolezal, Frank Dolezal, Inez Stepanek, Cecelia Bartak, Mary Filingier and the teacher, Anna Kuchera.



In 1919:

Little girls wore bows,  
 Plaid dresses and hose  
 That everyone knows  
 Reached the tip of their toes!

George A. Filingier was the teacher of: Helen Stepanek-Newbauer, Annie Novak-Sterba, Mollie Hanel-Baxa, Mary Kavorek-Sontag and Lorene Kuchera.



The same year Mr. Filingier also taught there six little boys who were: Robert Keene, Henry Dosedak,



Frank Dosedak, Elmer Dolezal, Peter Drapel and George Stransky.



Was it Shakespeare who said, "He who hath no music in his soul and is not moved by the concord of sweet sounds is fit for...Let no such man be trusted!" Here are a "trusty" group of George Filingers' school in 1919 also. Even from wood cometh sweet sounds in the hands of: Elmer Dolezal, Emery Bartak, Frank Filinger, Frank Dolezal, Clarence Hanel, Frank Daudle, Joe Homolac and Peter Drapel! Budding geniuses, everyone!



In 1921 while Isis Brewer was teaching Tabor School comes this picture of some of the pupils that year who were selected to wind the May pole on the last day of school. The Queen of the May was Amelia Kesl (7). The dancers were: Shirley Kuchera, Eleanor Peterka, Ladimer Walta, Helen Stepanek, Harold Dolezal, Lorene Kuchera, Amelia Kesl, Glenn Peters, Mollie Hanel, Leonard Hanel, Annie Novak, John Splichal and Helen Walta. (Picture is courtesy of Frank Dolezal and Ivan Odgers.) So the old tradition of winding the May pole was re-enacted at Tabor as it has been for hundreds of years in so many schools, in towns and villages, throughout the world.

Anne Filinger-Swiercinsky, a sister to George, took her place as a teacher, too, at Tabor for four years - 1929-30, 1930-31, skipped a year, 1932-33 and 1933-34.. In the back row: Viola Klaumann, Harold Dolezal, Ben Popelka, Ralph Walter, and Shirley Kuchera. Third row: Doris Walter, Viola Popelka, Frank Popelka, Glenard Sklenicka, Roy Wells, and Gayle Hirmon. Second row: Ivan Odgers, Harvey Skucius, Georgia Wells and Francis



Odgers. The first row (standing and sitting): Gladys Peterka, Zella Walter, Amelia Kesl, Margaret Hirmon, the teacher Anne Filinger, Stella Popelka, Eleanor Peterka and Gloria Peterka.

1943 - Miss Helen Trzicky  
 1944 -  
 1945 - All Pupils  
 1946 - to other  
 1947 - districts  
 1948 - No school here  
 1949 - Robert Bormet  
 1950 - Mrs. Ella I. Moravek - 13 v  
 1951 - Mrs. Ella I. Moravek - 2 v  
 1952 - Ben L. Huncovsky 8 v  
 1953 - Sylvia Donaldson 9 v  
 1954 - Mrs. Ella Moravek 8 v  
 1955 - Mrs. Ella Moravek 12 v  
 1956 - Mrs. Ella I Moravek  
 1957 - Mrs. Ella Moravek - 9 v  
 1958 - Ella Moravek 4 v  
 1959 - Ella Moravek - 15 v  
 1960 - Ella Moravek

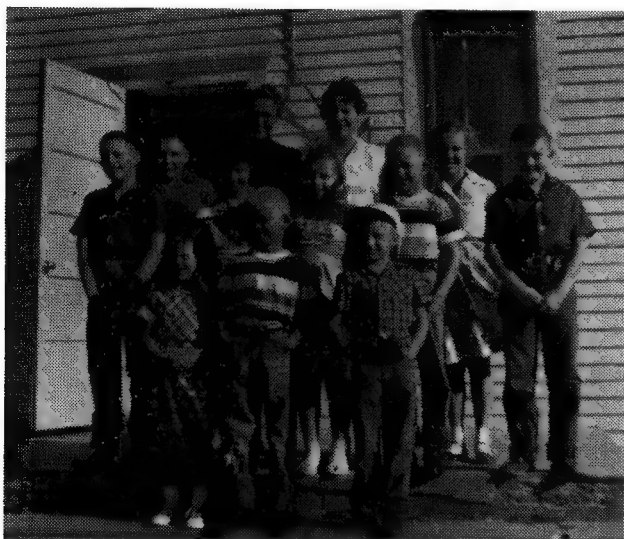
Of these above teachers Ella Moravek taught 9 terms, Anne Filinger taught 4 terms, Grace Bazant 3 terms and the following each taught 2 terms William K. Walters, Lulu Thompson, Mildred Houdek, Helen (Bushby) Scott, Mrs. Ethel Rust, Dorothy Mitchell, Alma Bergstrom, Helen Kadlec and Louisa (Baxa) Hanel.

It is impossible, due to lack of records, to list without question all the Tabor School board members. Following is a list of the members we can locate and we feel these are reasonably correct. They are not listed in the order they served, but nearly so. Some served in the early years and then again in later years. Some old records are missing, so possibly some served more years than listed. Also, possibly, some names are not listed with the following names. The figure after each name is years served:

S. J. Wilson - 1	John Ramsey - 1
Frank Herrick - 2	H.A. Martin - 2
James Tillinger - 1	John V. Kuchera - 13
W.G. Reed - 1	A. Wegal - 2
John Jehlik - 8	John Filinger - 7
Wesley Hirmon - 2	Arthur Stepanek - 3
vaclav Hirmon- 1	Joseph Stransky - 9
James Herrick - 1	George Hanel - 1
James Kesl - 1	Joseph Filinger 6

Wes Wiruth - 1	Frank Filiinger - 12
Ben W. Kucheera - 6	Edward Blecha - 6
Charles H. Peterka - 7	Joe Sterba - 6
Edward Kesi - 12	Frank Dolezal - 17
Charles Hirmon - 12	Charles Blecha - 6
Jerry Opocensky - 10	Lawrence Makalous - 12
John Wells - 1	Larry D. Richecky - 7
Earle Hirmon - 2	

The last school term taught was the term of 1960-61. It started on September 5th and ended March 26th. The teacher this last term was Ella Moravek and her pupils for the last term of school at Tabor were:



Back row: Ella Moravek and Verlene Makalous. Second row were: Ray Dean Richecky, Eldon Sterba, Le Ann Rataj, Verna Rae Makalous, Tom Skucius, Jeannie Odgers and Duard Sterba. Front row: Pamela Peters, Jimmie Skucius and Dwight Richecky. (Picture is courtesy of Helen Beneda-Makalous).

The board members Lawrence Makalous, Larry D. Richecky and Frank Dolezal remained in office until the district 33 was completely disorganized. The term of 1963-64 hurried the disorganization which was on August 7, 1964.

Tabor School building was sold at a public auction, during the first week in August. The school building and land were bought by Frank Dolezal. He bought it to convert it into a chapel in memory of his parents, who were early settlers here, and a brother who died of shrapnel wounds in World War I. The building is now furnished as a church. Services are held here regularly. They are conducted by Rev. Amos Rundus. Among those that attended is Bessie (Houdel) Lang a faithful member who taught school here during the term of 1901-02.

The old school bell in the school's cupola tower was sold separately at the auction. It was bought by the late Larry D. Richecky. He made a base for it and placed it on the lawn of his country home. The bell is still there today for all to see. This old school is mentioned in the book of Republic County History, "Homeland Horizons" just recently published.

Frank Dolezal, the benefactor of New Tabor Memorial Chapel, lives now in a rest home in Belleville. His home is now the only town lot left in the old town of

New Tabor. It is described as Lot 8, Block 4. The property is now owned by Elmer and Marcella Dolezal. Ivan Odgers, a nephew, now lives in the house at "New Tabor". He also watches over and cares for the old Tabor School. This school which was once in the town site on New Tabor is in the northwest area of what was the old townsite. This one acre and Tabor School are now in the country. Thus, Tabor School District 33 was once a town school and it wound up as a school in the country, still on the same location. It is one of the few country school houses still standing in Republic County which is kept up and is still in use.

### SILVERTHORNE SCHOOL 34

School District 34 was deeded one acre of land for \$5.00 from the homesteader who settled there in 1869. He was Woodrow Douglas and his wife, Emma. They gave a warranty deed for the site on March 3, 1874. This one acre was located in the NW¼ of section 13 in Jefferson Township. No location of the school land was mentioned.

The district was organized on June 8, 1871. This was at their first meeting. The officers elected were Davis Louton, director and G. J. Baird, clerk. The sections then were 1,2,3,10,11,12,13,14,15 and E¼ N of 16, T-3, R-2. On March 28, 1872 the following persons were elected and qualified as officers of said district, J.A. Bennett, director; G.J. Baird, clerk and Samuel Arbuthnot, treasurer. Then the SW 2 of section 1 was attached to the district. As the years followed sections were often changed.

The first school building was built in 1871. It was located in the NW corner of the NW¼ of the section. It is not known how the school got its name. But, the Silverthorne family lived across the road to the north. Without a doubt, it was named after them.



Records of old Silverthorne School are scarce. So our knowledge of old Silverthorne until 1902 is lacking. We have found only one picture of the old building, taken, it is believed, in the early 1890's. The picture shows children and parents, but, only one is known, Laura Stepanek's mother, Tillie Makalous, who was a pupil there at the time.

On Sunday, April 13, 1873 a blizzard started. It was a rain of cloud-burst proportions turning to hail, then to snow, resulting in one of the worst storms of this area.

First, on April 12, 1873 the Crane's lost their home in a prairie fire. It was in the NW corner of the NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of section 15. They went to the Bennett home for shelter, to the north and east, in the NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of section 11. By Monday night (the 14th) this storm was at its worst. Due to strong winds and heavy weight of the snow and ice, it crushed in the roof of the Bennett's rock home. Everything crashed through to the cellar where the two families had gone for shelter. Tuesday morning, at break of day, Mr. Bennett went for help. Upon his return his wife and four children and Mrs. Crane, and two of her children had frozen to death.

The eight frozen bodies were taken to Silverthorne School, for a place of "rest" before they were buried in Farmington Cemetery. This story is related by Mrs. Emma (Frint) Makalous as told to her by Mrs. H. L. (Louise Pfaff) Kent. Louise's folks lived south west of the Crane's burned out home. She, then, also attended school at Silverthorne. One morning after the blizzard she and others went to the school as usual. When they opened the door and stepped inside, they were horrified to see these eight frozen, dead bodies there on the floor. The school was dismissed for a day or two.



Mrs. Rose (Bednar) Makalous has shared this 1898 picture of Silverthorne pupils. Pupils between rows are listed in the back row and not all the names are known. To the best of our knowledge this is the identification: Back row and between as they appear a girl, Milek Keperta, Millie Makalous, Tom Baird, a girl, Ella Blazek, Dollie Sherman, Minnie Elliot, Clara Woodside the teacher, Lula Phelps, a boy, Ed Keperta, Pearl Sherman, Hattie Sherman, Bert Phelps, Tillie Bednar, Jessie Sherman, Maggie Sherman, and Rose Bednar. In the front row, we do not know the first girl, Louie Barnett is next, Ed Barnett, a boy, Rose Makalous, a boy, Frances Blazek holding the sign, George Blazek, Joe Blazek and Frank Bednar.

The area was in need of a larger school building. So the old building was sold and moved into Cuba. It was remodeled into a home for the Clarence Sissell family. Later it became the home of the late Mrs. Ernest Barton. As soon as the old school was moved off the land, the second school building was started in about 1920 or 1921.

In 1925 Miss Marion Heina taught these children: Back row: Miss Heina, Lillie Trecek, Laura Keperta. Mildred Keperta, Milek Sklenicka, Maynard Jakobosky. Middle row: Frank Blazek, Bessie Trecek, Frank Keperta, Glen Lesovsky, Joe E. Blazek, Leon Lesovsky, Louis Trecek. Front row: Joe Blazek, Helen Blazek, George Lesovsky, Louise Makalous, Olive Koukal (a visitor), Gerald Shulda (a visitor), Glen Shulda, George Blazek and Leon Nesvarba. (Picture is courtesy of Louise (Makalous) Benysheks)



Miss Ella L. Smith was the first teacher in the new building. School was held here until the end of the 1955 spring term. School here, then, was discontinued. Orel M. Davidson was the last teacher. The pupils that term between Sept. 10, 1954 thru April 11, 1955 were,

Jane Marie Nobert	Irene Drapal
Barbara Ann Rytych	Joan Jean Klima
Judith Faye Nobert	Alvis Ray Sklenicka
Franklin D. Sklenicka	

Barbara Rytych's folks moved from the area during either October or November. So she was not one of the last actual pupils at Silverthorne.

The record of 1902 is badly damaged by poor and faded writing, also badly damaged by rats or mice. Only a few names can be made out. The teacher that year (1902-03) was Rosa Kent. In 1903-04 the teacher was Pearl Nutter and her pupils were:

Walter Gilmore	Mary Kalivoda
Earle Hicks	Mary Sklenicka
John Hicks	Helen Sklenicka
Ronnie Hicks	Maggie Sklenicka
Wanda Kinney	Frank Bednar
Fredie Makalous	Willie Gibboney
Blanche Sklenicka	Mable Gibboney
Tommy Blazek	Anna Sklenicka
Joe Kalivoda	Tillie Bednar
Eddie Makalous	Joe Blazek
Frank Sklenicka	Frances Blazek
Albina Sklenicka	Tommy Baird
Flossy Umland	Melek Keperta
Georgie Blazek	Rose Makalous
Lany Blazek	Elsie Sherman
Vernie Blazek	Hattie Sherman
Joe Gibboney	Freda Sherman

The following teachers, we found their names but not the terms in which they taught,

Lulu S. Phelps	C.C. Sterba
Bertha McDonald	Bertha Barton
Mary Hostinsky	Anna Zavodsky

Following are the pupils of the term of 1909-10. The teacher was Goldie Miller. It is noticable how the families



(by family names) change over a few years. It seems that 50 percent of the families remained, 50 percent possibly moved elsewhere. But for the 50 percent that moved, an equal number of different families came back into the area. These 1909-10 pupils are:

Mary Trecek	Joseph Bednar
Frances Trecek	Albert Deatherage
Mary Barnett	Joseph Gibboney
Anna Barnett	Vernie Gilmore
Blanche Sklenicka	Walter Gilmore
Emma Sklenicka	Fred Gilmore
Albina Sklenicka	Frank Klima
Millie Sklenicka	Eddie Makalous
Grace Gibboney	Fred Makalous
Freda Gilmore	Emil Makalous
Hazel Gilmore	Eddie Novek
Anna Deatherage	Charles Novek
Laura Stepanek	Frank Trecek
Lany Blazek	Albert Barnett
Emma Barnett	Eddie Barnett
Tommy Blazek	

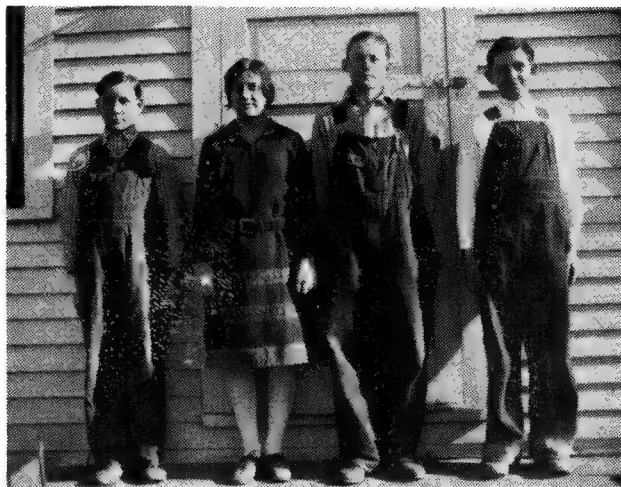
We have found the names of all the teachers back to the term of 1911-12, but we are unable to list the visitors until 1942-43. These teachers are:

1911-12 — Edward Leshovsky  
 1912-13 — Ruth McDonald  
 1913-15 — Mary G. Fitts  
 1915-19 — Anna Hostinsky  
 1919-20 — Laura Peterka  
 1920-22 — Lottie Barton  
 1922-23 — Ella L. Smith  
 1923-25 — Marian L. Heina  
 1925-26 — Grace Kolman  
 1926-28 — Anne Filinger  
 1928-29 — Helen Campbell  
 1929-30 — Leona Blazek  
 1930-31 — Hazel Smith  
 1931-32 — Frances Huncovsky  
 1932-34 — Dorothy Mitchell  
 1934-36 — Aloisia Baxa  
 1936-38 — Flossie Martin  
 1938-39 — Raymond Lesovsky  
 1939-42 — Charles V. Heina



Anne Filinger-Swiercinsky taught Silverthorn School in the years 1926-28. She has this picture of her pupils in 1926-27: Back row: Leon Lesovsky, Frank Blazek, Glen Lesovsky, Second row: Venis Dean Havel, Viola Havel, Lillian Trecek, Clarence Havel, Frank Keperta. Seated in

front: Olive Koukal, Maxine Bednar, Georgine Bednar, Louis Makalous, Vincent Lesovsky, Joey Blazek, George Blazek and George Lesovsky.



When Miss Hazel Smith was teacher at Silverthorne she boarded with Mr. and Mrs. Anton Havel. In 1930-31 her eighth grade class were: left to right - George Lesovsky, Bessie Trecek, Frank Keperta, and Clarence Havel.

Following are more names of teachers until the school closed, after the term of 1954-55. Following each teacher's name, the figure indicates the number of visitors that called that year.

1942-43 — Mildred Kalivoda - 9  
 1943-44 — Mildred R. Steier - 16  
 1944-45 — Rose Mary Kasl - 4  
 1945-46 — Rose Mary Kasl, (married now) McHugh - 8  
 1946-47 — Florence Kopsa - 17  
 1947-48 — Robert L. Bormet - 13  
 1948-49 — Marie Klima - 11  
 1949-50 — Marie Klima - 22  
 1950-51 — Robert L. Bormet - 16  
 1950-52 — Florence Blecha - 17  
 1952-53 — Mrs. Olive Fojt - 14  
 1953-54 — Mrs. Olive Fojt - 6  
 1954-55 — Orel M. Davidson



Mrs. Fojt's 1953-54 group were ready to participate in the Zone Music Festival held at Cuba in the spring. They were wearing their Kansas costumes of blue pinafores and golden sunflowers. Third from the left is Barbara





Rytych and the names of the others are in the following picture. The 1952-53 picture shows on the back row: Mrs. Olive Fojt, Kayleen Skocny, Elvis Sklenicka, Ilene Drapal, Front row: Joan Klima, Judy Nobert, Franklin Sklenicka, Barbara Rytych.



In 1954-55 Mr. Orel M. Davidson was the last teacher at Silverthorne School. He has loaned us this picture of the pupils that year: left to right: Alvis Ray Sklenicka, Joan Klima, Jane Nobert, Judy Nobert, Ilene Drapal and Franklin Sklenicka. The geometric designs on the wall correlated math and art.

This school had many get-togethers for the enjoyment of the pupils, teachers and parents. They had box uppers, auctions, ball games, pie suppers, spelling bees and socials. These were always well attended. It was either in 1923-24 or 1924-25 term that the teacher, Marian L. Heina formed a "Seventh Grade Girls" sewing club. Her records show that several nice dresses were made. That same year perfect attendances were had by:

Laura Keppta	Glennie Lesovsky
Mildred Keppta	Maynard Jakabosky
Frankie Blazek	Frankie Keppta
Leon Lesovsky	George Lesovsky

Another event worth mentioning, is from the teacher's report which is as follows, "A play entitled, "Wives To Burn" was given at South Hall for the school. The play was presented by the Hollis Dramatic Club. A box supper followed the play. A very large crowd was in attendance. The amount taken in that night amounted to \$68.40 minus royalty and other expenses. This amount and the money which was taken in the previous year were put together and for the total sum a nice School Victrola was

purchased for the school".

"A program and supper were given the last day of school by the teacher and pupils. The program took place on Thursday evening before the closing day. Every one enjoyed a very nice time".

(Signed)

"Marian L. Heina".



Marie Klima, the teacher for the terms 1948-49 and 1949-50 started the Annual Silverthorne School Homecoming. At the Homecoming on April 24, 1949 the largest family attending was that of Anton and Frances Makalous. They were also the largest family that at-



tended Silverthorne School thru the past years. A picture of this group was taken in the school that day, with the present teacher, Marie Klima. The nine living "pupils" then were as follows Joe, Frank, Emma (Mrs. Elmer Jakabosky), Tillie (Mrs. Arthur Stepanek), Ed, Fred, Millie (Mrs. Joe Stransky), Emil and Rose (Mrs. Joe Vacha).

After the school was discontinued the building was moved into Cuba on August 19, 1958 after the district was disorganized. After the school had closed, the pupils went to the school in Cuba. The building became a part of Cuba's red brick school, where more room was badly needed. It first served as the kitchen and lunch room. When the brick school was torn down, it was remodeled and became Cuba's Kindergarten and the office for school district 455. It is still used for the office of School District 455.

Some of the early school board members of Silverthorne are Joe Schocny, George B. Lesovsky, William M. Schneberger and Leo Beneda. The board members and the total service since the school term of 1942-43 are,

Joos Bednar, 5 years; Leo Beneda, 4 years; Peter Drapal, Jr., 13 years; Ernest Havel, 10 years; Ben Krob, 5 years; Milek Sklenicka, 4 years; Norbert Nobert, 3 years; Edgar J. Kalivoda, 2 years and Kenneth Huncovsky, 2 years.

The 1957-58 school board members when Silverthorne School, District 34, was disorganized were Norbert P. Nobert, director; Edgar J. Kalivoda, clerk and Kenneth Huncovsky, treasurer. The school district terminated when the county superintendent, W.J. Matthias signed the disorganization papers on June 6th of 1958.

Researched and written E.F. Stepanek.

#### DISTRICT 35 — SUMMIT POINT

District 35 was organized on May 10, 1871 three miles west of Belleville on what is now Highway 36. The schoolhouse still stands in the SE corner of SW¼ of Section 5 in Belleville Township. The schoolhouse serves now as a church for the Seventh Day Advent congregation.

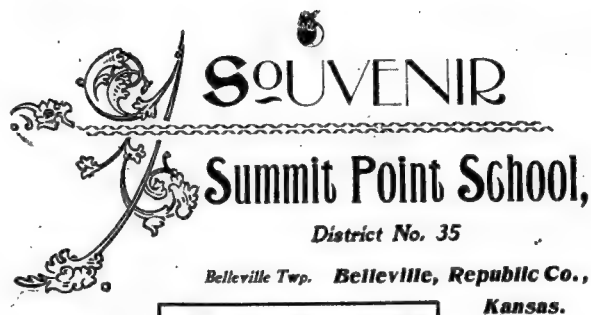


According to the date over the door in our 1898 picture, the schoolhouse was built in 1885.



In 1889 or 1890 this old picture tells us that the teacher was Mary Beecher and the school had gone to the Republican River at Scandia for a picnic. The only identification shows little folks sitting on the front row from left to right are: Ada, George, Helen, Anna, behind her Billie, skip a girl and Mary and James. We noticed the older pupils on the back row, to the right of Miss Beecher, were quite dressed up in fine clothes and hats! Quite a far cry from the 1976 version of dress for a picnic - all 39 of them! (Picture is the courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Herrman.)

We are happy to share Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Herrman's keepsake with our readers because it dates 1898-99 the same as the picture below. Miss Bertha C. Peake had a rather unusual "Grade" placement for these



pupils: Eighth Grade: David Williams, Mattie Doctor, George Duncan and John Duncan. Seventh Grade "A": Mary Lowden, Kattie Lowden and Alice Forshee.



Seventh Grade "B": Anna Maxton, Lillie Burandt and Delia Reilly. The Sixth Grade was large, but had no division: Sarah Mackey, Grace Mackey, Roy Brown, Minnie Harkness, Archia Duncan, Levi Dagget, Joe Forshee, Henry Forshee and Bert Lowden. There was no Fifth Grade, but the Fourth Grade was large: Myrtle Holsinger, Bessie Holsinger, Ezra Dagger, Clarence Ball, James Ball, Oscar Howard, Ezra Mackey, Floyd Reiley. Third Grade: Pearl Ball, Hettie Ball, Maud Mackey, Joseph Mackey, Fannie Howard, William Duncan, and Bessie Tynan. Only one Second Grade pupil was Clare

Daggett. Five the First Grade: Hattie Ball (to whom this Souvenir was given), Ralph Ball, Ralph Forshee, Kittie Wells and Vera Leppitt. Board members were: William R. Wells, Chester Ball and J.L. Harkness. Miss Lucy Howard was county superintendent.

In 1894-5 John W. Kuhn taught Summit Point for \$40 per month

1898-99 Bertha C. Peake  
1904-5 Erma Bullen  
1905-6 Joseph Jelik  
1907-8 Charles J. Klaumann  
1908-9 Ada M. Burandt  
1910-11 Lotta Yowell  
1920-21 Edythe Barnhart



We have not date for this picture when Inez Sheeks was the teacher, but it must have been about 1900. Kittie Wells was in first grade in the Souvenir of 1898 and she has loaned us this picture which shows her standing near the teacher and just a little older! As nearly as possible, these are the pupils: Bottom row, left to right - Hopkins boy, Roy Ball, a girl, Janet Nichol, Gilbert Holsinger, Powrie Wells, Bessie Ball, William Duncan and Billie Duncan. Second Row: Hopkins boy, John Wells, James Woodward, Frank Ball and Hattie Ball.

Third row: Hopkins girl, Katherine Wells, Ruth Dagget, Ines Sheeks the teacher, Eunice Dagget, Pearl Woodward, Howard Ball, Joseph Musser. Fourth row: Mary Dagget, Viola Musser, Gilbert Kelly, Pearl Ball, Clarence Dagget, Ezra Dagget, James Ball, Hettie Ball, Myrtle Holsinger, and Lily Nichol.

Top row: Levi Dagget, Ada Burandt, Arthur Hulse, Alma Ball, Gertrude , Bessie Holsinger and John Coss.

At Summit Point in 1904-05, Miss Erma Bullen was the teacher. The Board members were Chester Ball, W.R. Wells, F.N. Woodward and there were 36 pupils enrolled that year. They were: Pearl Woodward, William Duncan, Kittie Wells, Joseph Musser, Levi Daggett, Claire Daggett, Archie Richter, Edwin Harwin, Ralph Ball, John Wells, Frank Ball, Vina Stillwell, Lila Richter, Minta Stilwell, Eunice Daggett, Roy Ball, James Fletcher, Leslie Stilwell, Powrie Wells, Howard Ball, Birdie Mosher, Lester Stilwell, Agnes Hulse, Lyman Wilmot, Murel Musser, James Woodward, Ezra Daggett, Allahlee Mosher, Hattie Ball, Olive Mosher, Bessie Ball, Ruth Daggett, Ruby Wilmot, Nina Richter, Bertha Howard, Ora Ball.

So we can see how down the years the little schoolhouse by the side of the road has served as an educational center for generations and continues to serve as a religious center.

#### DISTRICT 36 - VICTOR

During May, 1871 at the home of H. Briggs this school was organized by W.R. Bice, C.W. Fowler and George W. Jackson with the aid of county Supt. William Lancaster. This original Victor or Hiatt School was located three-fourths of a mile north of Chapel Church, south of the railroad, on the west side of the road. This schoolhouse was sold in 1880 to Lew Thomas and then used as a granary - possibly still there. We not know where school was held until 1887 when the bonds were voted for a new schoolhouse, but that election was "held at the schoolhouse" on Dec. 25, 1887. There must have been another schoolhouse. In 1872 three months of school beginning June 1st was held with thirty-two students. There were thirteen children in the primary group, fourteen in the intermediate group, and five people in the grammar section. School was held for seven months in 1889-90, Olive Mosshart was the teacher.

These District Board Records for Victor School indicate that the special meeting on Nov. 5, 1887 was to determine whether to move the schoolhouse or to sell it. It was decided to locate it on the NW corner of John Bice's place. A motion to reconsider the whole business and sell the house was lost.

Then on Christmas Day of 1887 they met at the schoolhouse in compliance with a petition dated Dec. 14, 1887 to hold an election and vote bonds for a new schoolhouse. Twenty-two votes favored the bonds and none were cast against them.

So the democratic process brought about a new school

*Nov 5th 1887  
at special school meeting was held  
at the school house for the purpose of  
selling or making arrangements to move said  
house*

*motion made to have the relocation  
of the house paid for and let to  
some responsible party to move it.  
Carried*

*motion made that G. W. Jackson  
Oliver Hays and J. W. Hays act as  
building committee Carried*

*motion made to have the school house  
as near as practicable on the north west  
corner of John Bice's place Carried*

*motion made to reconsider the whole  
business of the meeting and sell the  
house Lost*

*Ad. moved  
Wm. G. Hays*

Dist 36

RECORD OF DISTRICT BOARD AND SCHOOL MEETINGS.

(2)

Dec 25<sup>th</sup> 1888  
In compliance with a petition dated Dec 14<sup>th</sup> 1888 an election was held at the School house for the purpose of voting Bonds for building school house.  
Meeting called to order by Director Motion made that W. W. Jackson Alfred Jewell Charles Swenson act as judges of election.  
The judges appointed John Bise  
Clerks of election  
The vote was then given and the results as follows: number of votes cast for the Bonds twenty two votes cast against the Bonds twenty seven votes cast against the Bonds.  
The Bonds are as follows:  
Bond No 1 principal \$1000 to mature July 1<sup>st</sup> 1899  
Bond No 2 principal \$1000 to mature July 1<sup>st</sup> 1899  
Bond No 3 principal \$1500 to mature July 1<sup>st</sup> 1899  
The books were left open until time to close when they were closed in usual manner.  
John Bise  
Clerk of election

Dec 25<sup>th</sup> 1888  
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Bond No 1 principal \$1000 to mature July 1<sup>st</sup> 1899  
Bond No 2 principal \$1000 to mature July 1<sup>st</sup> 1899  
Bond No 3 principal \$1500 to mature July 1<sup>st</sup> 1899  
The books were left open until time to close when they were closed in usual manner.  
John Bise  
Clerk of election

Dec 28, 1888  
The annual meeting of the District Board was held at the School house on said date at 2 o'clock.  
The meeting was called to order by the Director.  
The first business was the report of the Treasurer.  
The report was read and approved.  
The second business was the report of the Board.  
The report was read and approved.  
The third business was the report of the Committee on the school house.  
The report was read and approved.  
The fourth business was the report of the Committee on the school books.  
The report was read and approved.  
The fifth business was the report of the Committee on the school furniture.  
The report was read and approved.  
The sixth business was the report of the Committee on the school grounds.  
The report was read and approved.  
The seventh business was the report of the Committee on the school buildings.  
The report was read and approved.  
The eighth business was the report of the Committee on the school equipment.  
The report was read and approved.  
The ninth business was the report of the Committee on the school supplies.  
The report was read and approved.  
The tenth business was the report of the Committee on the school salaries.  
The report was read and approved.  
The eleventh business was the report of the Committee on the school expenses.  
The report was read and approved.  
The twelfth business was the report of the Committee on the school income.  
The report was read and approved.  
The thirteenth business was the report of the Committee on the school assets.  
The report was read and approved.  
The fourteenth business was the report of the Committee on the school liabilities.  
The report was read and approved.  
The fifteenth business was the report of the Committee on the school net worth.  
The report was read and approved.  
The sixteenth business was the report of the Committee on the school management.  
The report was read and approved.  
The seventeenth business was the report of the Committee on the school discipline.  
The report was read and approved.  
The eighteenth business was the report of the Committee on the school health.  
The report was read and approved.  
The nineteenth business was the report of the Committee on the school safety.  
The report was read and approved.  
The twentieth business was the report of the Committee on the school progress.  
The report was read and approved.  
The twenty-first business was the report of the Committee on the school future.  
The report was read and approved.  
The twenty-second business was the report of the Committee on the school past.  
The report was read and approved.  
The twenty-third business was the report of the Committee on the school present.  
The report was read and approved.  
The twenty-fourth business was the report of the Committee on the school future.  
The report was read and approved.  
The twenty-fifth business was the report of the Committee on the school past.  
The report was read and approved.  
The twenty-sixth business was the report of the Committee on the school present.  
The report was read and approved.  
The twenty-seventh business was the report of the Committee on the school future.  
The report was read and approved.  
The twenty-eighth business was the report of the Committee on the school past.  
The report was read and approved.  
The twenty-ninth business was the report of the Committee on the school present.  
The report was read and approved.  
The thirtieth business was the report of the Committee on the school future.  
The report was read and approved.

instead of moving the old one. The following June 28, 1888, the District 36 voted to have nine months of school - the first three months beginning the first Monday in September - a female teacher to be employed all terms.

On July 25th, 1889 at the Annual Meeting they voted to have three months fall term and four months winter term. The Board was instructed to hire Ollie Mosshart for the fall term and if the Board liked her she would be employed for the winter term. The motion was lost that the District furnish the school books.

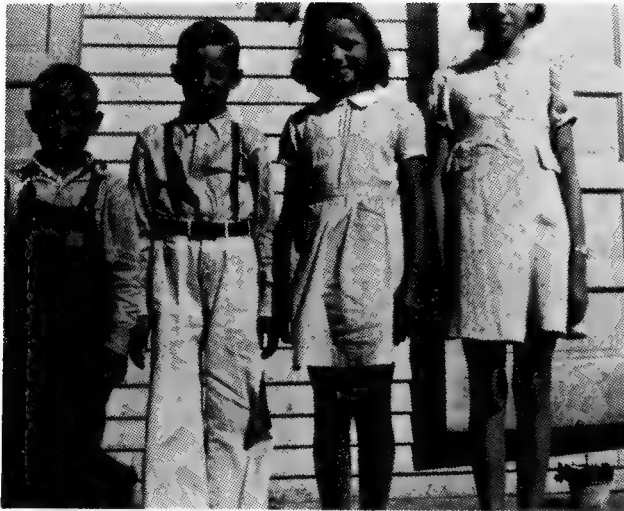
Some of the early teachers were Jessie Boyd, May West, Ida Benjamin, Lizzie Glen, A. C. Northrop and others. Some students attending during these earlier years were as follows — Jewels; Sarah, Sam, and Lillie. — Eichmans-Della, Mable, and Carrie. Lloyd and Merton Thomas — Yosts: Charlie, Carl and Myrtle — Jenkins: Bertie, Lizzie and Roy — Mable and Maggie Hiatt — Davenport: Russel, Daisy, Mattie and Frank.

District 36 when organized covered quite an area as District 115 was later organized and the whole eastern half of District 36 comprised the latter district. In the records, it is mentioned that the distances of up to six miles were thought too far for children to walk. Because Victor was located on a hill close to a creek bank it was often called "Anthill".

In 1909-10 this school hired these teachers—Elva Salisbury, one mo. \$50, Nora Mulch, Munden for 3½ mo. \$45, and E. E. Zavodsky, 2½ mo. \$60.

Miss Marjorie Carpenter taught Victor School in 1942-43 with these pupils in attendance: Norma Danielson, Peggy Danielson, and Marvin Lee Danielson. Kenneth Ray attended until the end of January 1943 when his





family moved away. The Board members were L. W. Eichman, S. R. Danielson and Roy Canfield.

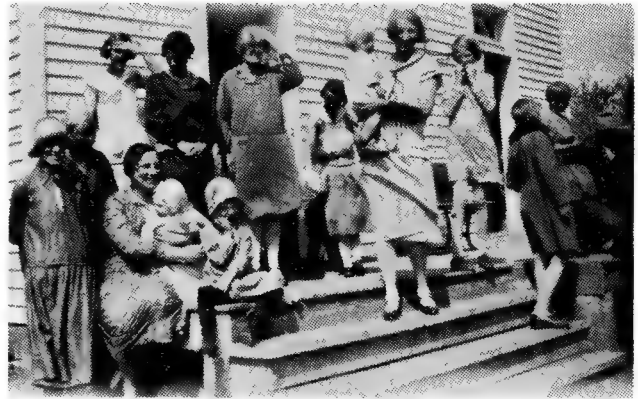
In 1949, the Victor community and board voted to pay transportation costs to parents. Each family was to be paid \$2 per day per family or \$40 per month per family. The rate for bussing would be considerably higher today.

On July 26, 1951 this district was disorganized and a part of it was annexed to District 57 (Star) and the rest was annexed to Excelsior District 66. At this time there were these pupils residing in Victor: Willis Poppe, John Naylor, Lucinda Grueber, Laura Ann Naylor, and Marjorie Eickman. The school board were L. W. Eickman, Vincent Henstorf and Lois Canfield.



L. to R. Top row: Verril Thomas, Peter Kelly, Clive Thomas, Wilmer Ward-teacher. Front row: Ardis Eickman, Lawrence Kelly, Deloris Eickman, Hazel Pressnall.

On a last day of school on May 2, 1929 a snapshot was taken of these persons at Victor School (L. TO R.) Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Bailey, (sitting) Mrs. Lawrence Eickman and Ruth, (on the porch standing) Mrs. Harry Eickman, Mrs. George Duey, Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Harry Rieke, Mrs. Wiedel and son, Lucille Rieke, Martha Dake, and Lawrence Eickman.



We think our readers may recall that at times our schools have required an Oath of Office for a member of the Board. Here is an old one administered to Elmer Hiatt on the 25th of July, 1889:

No. 8.  
OATH ADMINISTERED TO DIRECTOR.

State of Kansas, County of Reynolds, ss.

I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Kansas, and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Director of School District No. 36, County of Reynolds, State of Kansas. So help me God.

Elmer Hiatt

Subscribed and sworn to before me, at the meeting of the aforesaid School District, held this 25 day of July, A. D. 1889.

Alfred Green  
Chairman of School-District Meeting.

The Oath of Loyalty to the United States of America has been required of teachers at times when our country was guarding against the infiltrations of those with whom we were at war, i.e. the Germans, the Japanese, etc. We recall the indignation aroused among teachers who felt there should be no questioning of their loyalty! Courtesy of Mrs. Fry, Wilmer Ward, Hazel Naysmith.

#### DISTRICT 37 - STONY POINT

Stony Point School, District 37 was organized March 28, 1872. The site of the schoolhouse was NE corner of Section 20 in Lincoln Township.

The Sections 16, 17, 20, and 21 are all within the district



(Courtesy Mrs. Nettie Barnett)

boundaries, plus the SE¼ of Section 8, the S½ and NE¼ of Section 9 of Lincoln Township. There are limestone rocks in the hills of this area and the schoolground is stony - so it derives its name very naturally.



Stony Point School 1902, Joe L. Davis, teacher. Front Row L. to R. Lulu Horkman, Ben Porter, , ? Ellison, Orval Young, Vernal Carbutt, Earl Joslyn, ? Ellison, , Andrew Porter, Virgie Thomas, Glenn Guffin, Joy Carbutt. Second Row: Harry Carbutt, Key Carbutt, Della Guffin, Helen Simmons, Kimball. Back Row: Bert Ellison, Ernest Linton, Bert Kelly, Ida Guffin, Agnes Porter, Nora Ellison, Carrie Porter, Nora Young, Gene Simmons.



In 1926 Miss Ella Smith (Swenson) taught these pupils: Edward Dutton, Margaret Hansen, a Hansen boy, Hazel Jeardoe, Edith Jeardoe, Albert, Rosie, Florence, Katie, and Charley Jewell, Mildred Barleen, Sammy Horkman, Arnie Hadachek, Rex Carbutt, and Joyce Carbutt (Joler).

During the early 20's the teachers and pupils of Stony Point and Mercer exchanged parties at Halloween, Christmas, or Easter. Geography contests, singing songs, exchanging gifts, playing ball, and contest games were enjoyed by all the pupils.

They presented a play "Aaron Slick from Punkin' creek" and earned \$34.30 net proceeds with which they purchased a book case for \$22.00. A recitation bench for \$10.80, sash curtains, \$1.00, and pencil sharpener \$1.00.

The next year they purchased a teacher's chair and library books with money earned from a home talent play. In 1928 and 1929 they had a box supper and program to buy a soccer net and ball and new stage curtains.

In 1948 Forty Eight and Stony Point voted to consolidate and have school in each district part of the time. The new district became Con. 222.

School closed in 1953. Max Hamilton purchased the building to use on his farmstead.

#### DISTRICT 38 - PAWNEE SCHOOL

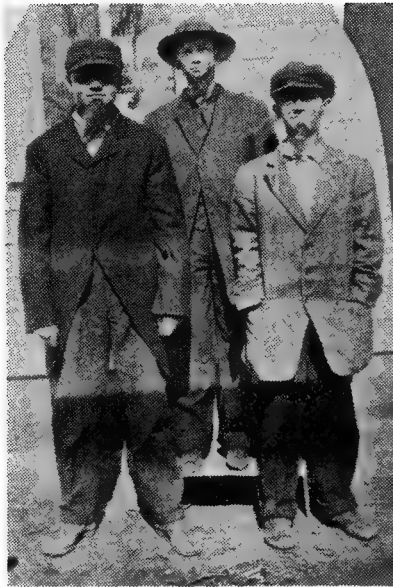
What courage it took to locate a school for white children in Pawnee Indian Territory! This is what happened on March 28, 1872. The Board members were: L. Loughrey, D.W. Hamilton and E.M. Martin. The frame building was erected in White Rock Township 2½ miles



south and 2 west of what is now Republic City. Schoolhouse picture is courtesy of Mrs. Homer Cardwell. We are indebted to Mrs. Fred Stromberg for other pictures and information.



While Miss Mary Jansky was the teacher much "latent talent" was discovered. She looks from the south window at Pawnee and we suppose she envisioned the prospective actors for "Ye Village School Board" one day in 1916 or 1917! Here are the members of "Ye School



**Board":** Harry Conzelman, Erma Davidson Stromberg and Lester Allen. (a great amount of finesse was needed to groom the beards!)



After careful study, the "director" chose the "cast": Back row: Leta Alba, Mabel Mosher, Ethel Anderson, Vivian Gabrielson, Erma Davidson (Strombert), Helen Aspegren (Beck), Front row: Mildred Anderson, Arlene Erkenbrock (Mitchell), Reba Erkenbrock (Morehead), Gladys Erkenbrock (Ramery), Inez Gabrielson (Sevanson).

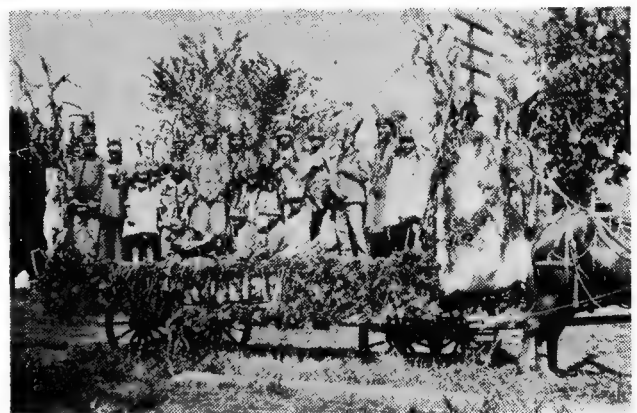


There was an excellent basketball team at Pawnee during the teens: Lester Allen, Harry Conzelman, Ernest

Anderson, Howard Sisson, Earle Erkenbrock and Murrell Conzelman - all of them eighth grade boys!



Another eighth grade team of players must have "come up through the ranks": back row (sitting on their knees)- Zola Erkenbrock (Johnson), Ethel Anderson, Leta Allen (Carlson), Vivian Gabrielson. Front row: Helen Aspegren (Beck), Fern Keennon and Erma Davidson (Stromberg).



About 1913-14 a Pawnee Float was entered in the Harvest Home Festival at Republic - Slogan - Why not? Sounded good! "Pawnee- P-A-W-N- double E. We're the Indians, Don't you see!"



In 1912 these "Pawnees" were in the more serious business of getting an education: Front row- Verle



Mosher, Gladys Erkenbrock, Ernest Anderson, Helen Aspegren, Earle Erkenbrock, and Howard Sisson. Back row: Hildred, Hazel and Wallace Aspegren, the teacher Glydeth Paptonstall (starting left) John Conzelman, Howard Shellhase, Christian Anderson, Harry and Murrell Conzelman, Lester Gabrielson, Mildred Anderson and Erma Davidson.

The two teachers mentioned before 1909 were Mildred Polley and Fannie Frost. From 1909 until 1916 were Loran Wagner, Mary Mitchell, Glydeth Haptonstall, Ruth Flathers and Mary Jansky. These two substitutes taught so that Mary Jansky could quit to "run for county superintendent" - Hattie Wright and Bruce Polley. Later teachers were: Mabel Strom (Cline), Zellah Stafford, Mildred Mead and Ruth Mead.

When the Pawnee School disorganized, the building was put to use as a granary.

### DISTRICT 39 - UNION VALLEY SCHOOL

The first school, a 3-month term, was opened in a dug-out with Zuretta Rockhold teaching for a salary of \$20 a month. There were 26 pupils during that summer of 1872, who sat on slab benches and received the best education available at the time. They were: Frank Cooper, Racena Cooper, Charles Gant, Clavin Gant, Ben Gant, Albina



Gant, Carolina Gant, David Hall, William J. Housholder, George Page, Esther Page, Van Rockhold, Gred Rockhold, Loretta Rockhold, Arthur Rockhold, Orpha Rockhold, Eddy Simms, Rosa B. Woods, Irene Woods, Sarah Woods, Clem Landreth, Lefa Robbins, Anna Small, Rachel Small, Mary M. Housholder and Daniel Housholder.

The movement to organize a school district began with a meeting on May 6, 1871 of S.A. McKay, John R. Bowersox and I.G. Housholder and a number of other early settlers interested in educational matters. They called the neighborhood together on May 9, 1871 to organize a school district. This was held at the John R. Bowersox home where they took up the task of appointing a committee to investigate the procedure for organizing a district and plan the boundary lines for it.

At a later meeting of the neighborhood it was decided to ask for a three-mile-square district out of the SE corner of Union Township. This was satisfactory to all living within the bounds, but J.M. Rockhold and M.B. Sheeks had families living outside the north boundary and wished to be included. So a half-mile strip of the territory was

added along the north side. A petition was signed by the people concerned and presented to Superintendent Lancaster asking for this district three miles wide and three and a half miles long. The same was granted on May 23, 1871 and notices for the first school election were posted at once. On June 3, 1871 the neighborhood met at the Bowersox home with good attendance. The Board elected were: S.A. McKay, John R. Bowersox and Andrew Engle. The site was selected on the SW corner of the SE ¼ of Section 23 - the most central point in the district. We have no picture of that first rock school. (The picture furnished by Homer Cardwell is a much later structure of 1907.)

Finances were such a problem that they decided to raise funds by subscription. The building was to be 14 by 20 feet inside measurement, with one story, a shingled roof, a board floor (a luxury for that time) and everyone could subscribe cash or labor. Only a very small amount of cash was given because the majority of the people had little or none to give.

What was lacking in cash, was off-set by an abundance of enthusiasm over the prospect of the new building. Everyone was willing to put forth great effort, so by July 25, 1871 the stone was on the ground for the first schoolhouse. The first loads were quarried and hauled to the site by Jeffry Horner, William Stanley, Luther Mikesell, Jerome Bowersox, Isadore Bowersox and Joshua Bowersox. The work progressed slowly because there was not much leisure time from farm work. By August 21, 1871 the building was staked out, but it was not until February 2, 1872 that the foundation was laid, however the remainder of the stone had been delivered to the ground.

On March 28, 1872 at the annual election John W. Nelson, S.A. McKay and J.R. Bowersox were elected to the School Board and also given authority as a building committee to oversee the building of the new schoolhouse. The very first levy for school money was made and they voted a three-month term of school, but Miss Rockhold was informed that she could receive no pay until the taxes were collected.

By August 10, the building was "in full swing" with Andrew Engle and Jerome Bowersox as chief architects and builders. The first lumber was delivered on August 17, and by October 23rd the roof was being put in place under the supervision for J.W. Robbins. By November 10th the money on hand was exhausted, so a meeting was called to raise more money. Funds were speedily raised. John W. Nelson resigned as a member of the Board and Henry G. Cooper was elected to fill the vacancy. I. W. Robbins volunteered on the first of January 1873 to manufacture the seats and desks for the school. He had completed the job on January 13 and the seats were placed in order. On that very evening a celebration over the completion of the schoolhouse was held with a spelling school. The cash outlay for the building and furniture was \$80.84 raised by taxation and \$30.00 by subscription - a total of \$110.34 to complete it.

Enrollment increased so rapidly that by the spring of 1874 a petition was circulated to present to the Board, asking for a special election to vote bonds for a new building. On August 8, 1874 bonds were voted to the amount of \$600.00 to be used for a new building - twenty-one for the proposition and five against.

On September 14, 1874 a special meeting was called to



change the location of the school ground. By a vote of 15 to 3 it was decided to move one-half mile west to the SE corner of the SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 22 in Union Township. The stone building was wrecked and the stone used for the foundation of the new building. Lumber was hauled from Belvidere, Nebraska, gratis by the patrons. The stove, seats and desks were taken from the stone building to be used in the new one and school opened December first of 1874. It was 36 by 24 feet inside and one story. A large blackboard was put at each end, cloak room on the east end and basement below.

Gradually the enrollment increased until in the year 1889-90 while Mary E. Beecher was the teacher, it became evident that more room was needed, since there were about one hundred children of school age in the district. Miss Beecher believed the solution lay in giving a number of the older students an opportunity to take high school work, if a room could be added for this purpose. Finally, after much planning, it was voted at the Nineteenth Annual Meeting, July 30, 1891 to build a suitable addition to the main building, with dimensions 20 by 24 feet with a belfry. By August 25, 1891 to build a suitable addition to the main building, with dimensions 20 by 24 feet with a belfry. By August 25, 1891 work commenced on the new addition; the end of October saw its completion.

Two teachers were employed and a two-year high school course began. Prof. C.E. Hoard was in charge of the upper grades and Miss Aura Miller had the lower grades. Six months of school were taught this first year and Union Valley had broken all precedents by initiating both the first two-teacher rural school and also the first ten-year study program.

The pupils who entered high school the first year were: Elmer, Bert and Edgar Morris; William and Ernest Mikesell; Lemuel, Edgar and Daisy Johnson; Elmer and Tillie Johnson; William, Minnie and Lida Bowersox; Fred Ayers, Delmer Hancock, Nellie Nelson, Lena Hammond, Clyde Thompson and Sylvia Thompson.

Until 1894 the course of study and adoption of texts was the choice of the District, but that year at the Annual meeting it was voted to accept the course used by Republic County.

The first graduating class (1896) from Union Valley High School was composed of: Nellie Nelson, Minnie Bowersox, Daisy Johnson, Earnest Mikesell and Fred Ayers. Miss Nora Harris, a former pupil of the school, had the honor of graduating this class. The school was gaily decorated for this memorable occasion to greet the crowd of more than 300 gathered that April evening. The Belleville Orchestra furnished the music, a quartette (Daisy Johnson, May Hancock, Edgar Johnson and D.F. Hancock) sang several numbers, Daisy Otto and Mrs. Louisa Couchman sang a duet, J.F. Close gave the address and he also presented the diplomas to five very proud young people. The Board members at this time were: Lafe Hancolck L.M. Morris and J.R. Bowersox. Several more commencements were held in following years.

#### 1911 & 1912

1st row (left to right) Virgil Baldwin, Dewey Marshall, Emory Buell, Floyd Housholder, Jim Goodwin, Arthur Colclazier, Claude Goodwin, Laurence Baker, Malon Baldwin. Teacher - C.M. Leggitt. 2nd row (left to right) Russell Johnson Wilma Larson Sena Cooper,



Pricilla Baker, Pricilla Howard, Ethel Reed, Elsie Austin, Elsie Bowersox, Vera Banks.

## PROGRAM

Program of the Twentieth Annual Commencement of the Republic County Common Schools to be held at Union Valley, Thursday evening, May 18, 1911. In charge of Lillian Bailey.

Invocation

Oration, "Always Waiting Until the Flood Tide Comes" ..... Frank J. Swiercinsky

Vocal Duet ..... Misses Mosher

Oration, "Try Not To Lean But To Lift" ..... Bessie Goodwin

Instrumental Solo ..... Chas Swiercinsky

Oration, "Present Education And Future Welfare" ..... Viva Waite

Vocal Solo ..... Elsie Bowersox

Oration, "Idleness is the Rust of the Mind" ..... Russell Johnson

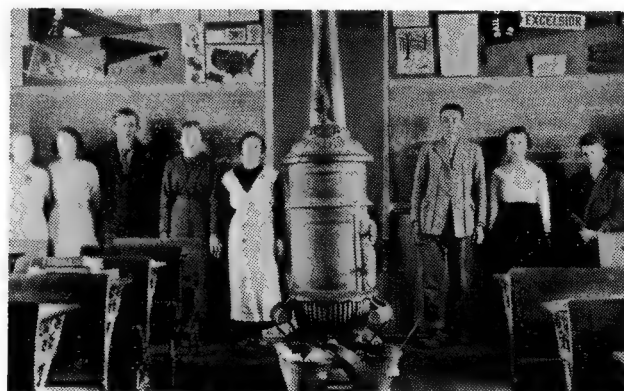
Vocal Duet ..... Miss McCullough and Mrs. Talent

Oration, "Value of an Education" ..... Ruth Bowersox

Vocal Solo ..... Zella Mosher

Presentation of Diplomas ..... Supt. W. M. Slopansky

Benediction ..... Duet by Apple



On March 13, 1916 this picture shows the high school students in the south room according to information given

to us by Mrs. Blanche Walker and Mrs. Lois Housholder. Grades one through eight were taught in the north room - the entire school was taught by two teachers. Left to right are: Margaret Marshall (Brown), Emma Swiercinsky Goodwin), Glenn Housholder, Gladys Housholder (Goodwin), Elsie Bowersox, Claude Goodwin, Ruby Sanderson (Colclazier), Edmund Swiercinsky, then to his right but not in the picture was Ethel Goodwin (Olson). Claude Bettis was the high school instructor.

The coal hod and shovel and the second hod for waste paper to help kindle the fire, also held cobs, if the year had been good for corn. The algebraic equations on the blackboard indicate that these students had advanced in math to a high school level. The display above the blackboard shows a banner "Sail On 1887—Excelsior".

During the summer and fall a cloak and entrance room seven by seven ft. was built at a cost of \$626.43 for material and labor. Members of the Board at this time were D.P. Johnson, S.H. Baldwin and Frank Goodwin. When the remodeling was completed an entertainment was given to celebrate the occasion. Heretofore, the outside entrance to the main room was at the east end of the building and the entrance to the south room was at the northeast corner of the room, so everyone rejoiced at the much-needed improvement.



For the term of 1899-1900, Gertrude Nutter taught the lower room for \$37.00 a month. Her pupils were: Carl McDowell, Grace Bowersox, B. Morris, Floy Nelson, Irl Bowen, Katie Adams, Leslie Hammond, Johnnie Daugherty, Pearle McDowell, Willie Morris, James Adams, Nellie Hammond, Vern Cooper, Dora Adams, Celia Pringle, Leamon Johnson, Johnnie Gant. Maude Bowen, Howard Banks, Labon Marshall, Emery Leach, Maggie Cooper, Earl Hammond, Ora Bowen, Ruth Marshall, Ruth Nelson, Ruth Bowersox, Verl Cooper, Clark Pringle, Bertha Banks, Kittie Leach, Brettta Marshall, George Adams, Lester Cooper and Ann Adams. School opened on Spet. 5, 1898 and closed March 24, 1899 - seven months of school! Mr. E.J. Abell was the principal and taught only six months at \$50.00 a month. Probably the older students were needed to work on the farms.

The following year of 1900-1901 Mary B. Martin was the principal for seven months at \$50. per month. Inez Sheeks taught the lower grades. We will note there are shutters on the schoolhouse in this picture which was often done for protection on early schools. From left to right in the back row are: two young men -Basil Hammond and Lee Bowersox and then over under the window are three - Will Morris, Emery Johnson and Pearle McDowell, then near the door are four - Mary Martin the Principal, Ralph Bowersox, Inez Sheeks the lower grade teacher, and Verle Bowersox. The third row beginning at the left are:



Pearle Bowersox, Bertha Banks, Bertha Johnson, Kate Nelson, John Moe, Iulina Morris, Emery Leach, Howard Banks, Nellie Hammond, Maggie Cooper, Grace Bowersox, Katie Adams, B. Morris, Bessie Nichol, Ora Bowen, Pearle Otto and Leamon Johnson. The second row, left to right are: Cora Nichol, Verl Cooper, Irl Bowen, Clair Davis, Ruby Woods, George Adams, Lily Nichol, Leslie (Ted) Hammond, Labon Marshall, Earl Hammond, Anna Adams, Floy Nelson, Erma Howard, Archie Larson, Kern Cooper, Brettta Marshall and Mary Larson. The front row are: Ruth Nelson, Bessie Cooper, May Cooper, Dora Adams, Ruth Bowersox, Kitty Leach, Ruth Marshall, Nellie Nichol, Myrtle Curren, Bert Bowen, Bernard Marshall, Lester Cooper and Jimmie Austin.



Mrs. Blanche Sanderson-Walker loaned us the schoolhouse picture showing the cloak and entrance room Dora Warner was the teacher in the North Room and these are the pupils listed for the year 1916:

Lee Housholder	8 yrs	Arthur Goodwin	11 yrs
Blanche Sanderson	9 yrs	Murray Mikesell	5 yrs.
Loleta Goodwin	8 yrs	Charles Mikesell	7 yrs.
Helen Goodwin	7 yrs		
Emma McDowell	9 yrs		
Roy McDowell	10 yrs		
Carl McDowell	7 yrs.		
Earl & Bertah Suwhart	13-10 yrs.		

and Dora Warner, the teacher for three months was 18 yrs. old and had a Normal Training Certificate., a first for District 39.

Beginning with 1872 we will list the teachers at Union Valley:

Zuretta Rockhold	Summer 1872
Mrs. Henry Chapman	Summer 1873
E.C. Lyon	Winter 1873-4
Mrs. Nettie Marble (A.D.)	1874
Mrs. Nettie Marble	Winter 1875
J.M. Roach	Summer 1875
J.M. Roack	Winter 1875-6
J.M. Roack	Summer 1876
Laura Mitchell	Winter 1876-77
Milton Polley	Summer 1877
J.P. Heaton	Winter 1877-78
Mrs. George Couchman	Summer 1878
C.A. Palmer	Winter 1878-79
Addid Megrada	Summer 1879
Byron Savage	Winter 1879-80
D.F. Logan, Dave	Summer 1880
Byron Savage	Winter 1880-81
Ella Odell	Summer 1881
Mrs. George Couchman	Winter 1881-82
Mrs. George Couchman	Summer 1882
Herman H. Holland	Winter 1882-83
W.E. Beckhart	Summer 1883
W.E. Beckhart	Winter 1883-84
Mrs. Nettie (A.D.) Marble	Summer '84
A.B. Crandell	Winter 1884-85
Mary Wilber	Summer 1885
D.P. Johnson	Winter 1885-86
Sarah Ireland	Summer 1886
John Ward	Summer 1886
D.P. Johnson	Winter 1886-87
Mary Wilber	Summer 1887
D.P. Johnson	Winter 1887-88
Nora Harris	Summer 1888
Byron Savage	Winter 1888-89
Mary Beecher	Summer 1889
Mary Beecher	Winter 1889-90
Sadie Myrick	9 months 1890-1
C. E. Hoard, Prin.	6½ months 1891-92
Mary E. Beecher	

1 week until another teacher was hired

Aura Miller	3¾ months 1891-92
V.D. Bullen, Prin.	4 months
Rose Taylor	3 months
Bula Dancy	3 months 1893
David Babb, Prin.	6 months 1893-94
Rose Taylor	8 months 1893-94
Bula Dancy	8 months 1894-95
Nora Harris, Prin.	6 months 1894-95
Elda Trainor	7 months 1895-96
Nora Harris, Prin.	6 months 1895-96
Mary Wilber	7 months 1895-96
C.H. Bixler, Prin.	6 months 1896-97
Emma Poage	7 months 1897-98
E.J. Abell, Prin.	5 months 1897-98
Gerturde Nutter	7 months 1898-99
E.J. Abell, Prin.	6 months 1898-99
Gertrude Nutter	7 months 1899-1900
Howard I. Floyd	7 months 1899-1900
Inez Sheeks	7 months 1900-1901
Mary B. Martin, Prin.	7 months 1900-1901
Estella Baird	7 months 1901-1902

H.L. Kent	6 months 1901-1902
Estella Baird	7 months 1902-1903
Adela G. Humphrey, Prin.	6 months 1902-1903
Nadua Thomas	7 months 1903-1904
Adela Humphrey	6 months 1903-1904

(Continued to Page 135)

## TEACHER'S GREETING

When comes the close of school my friend  
What varied feelings stir the heart!  
How soon all pleasures have an end  
How soon the choicest friends must part.

A backward glance will fill the mind  
With grateful joy for knowledge gained  
For time well spent, and feelings kind  
And friendships strong and unrestrained.

At time of "books" with joyful zest  
Fair learnings pathway we've pursued,  
Knowing full well they study best  
Whose minds are set in willing mood.

Soon as the playing period came  
Our books and foil we laid aside,  
And gave our zeal to every game  
As to the play-ground forth we hied.

In due proportion thus the hours  
Were yielded up to work and play—  
The body trained, the mental powers  
Unfolded in true wisdom's way.

We feel both glad and sad to-day,  
And scarce can hide the rising tear,  
We're glad for changes on life's way  
Yet sad to part from schoolmates dear.

Ah! me that some will not return  
When opes again the schoolhouse door;  
How oft their hearts within will burn  
As they recall the scenes of yore.

Where'er they go to do the will  
Of Him who guides each boy and girl,  
May peace and gladness o'er them still  
Their banner brave and true unfurl.

So one and all my pupils dear,  
Whatever comes of joy or stress  
Your teacher bids you have good cheer  
And win the crown of true success.

---

Ill habits gather by unseen degrees,  
As brooks make rivers, rivers run to seas.  
Ovid.

Jessie McDonald	7 months 1904-1905	2nd Grade Certificate
E.E. Marvin, Prin.	7 months 1904-1905	1st Grade Certificate
Lillian Norris	7 months 1905-1906	2nd Grade Certificate
W.S. Livingston, Prin.	6 months 1905-1906	3rd Grade Certificate
Grace Hostetler	7 months 1906-1907	3rd Grade Certificate
E.E. Marvin, Prin.	6 months 1906-1907	professional Certificate
Ella Rockhold	4 months 1907	2nd Grade Certificate
Bernice Cosand	4 months 1907	2nd Grade Certificate
Lilly Nutter, Jan 27	3 months 1908	3rd Grade Certificate
Nora Creighton	2 months 1908	Professional Certificate
Eulah Jordan	7 months 1908-1909	2nd Grade Certificate
L.S. Wagoner, Prin.	7 months 1908-1909	2nd Grade Certificate
Eulah Jordan	7 months 1909-1910	2nd Grade Certificate
C.C. Sterba, Prin.	7 months 1909-1910	Professional Certificate
Sara Stafford	7 months 1910-1911	3rd Grade Certificate
C.C. Sterba, Prin.	7 months 1910-1900	Professional Certificate
Ethel Stafford	7 months 1911-1912	State Certificate
C.M. Leggitt	7 months 1911-1912	professional Certificate
Bertha Elliot	7 months 1912-1913	2nd Grade Certificate
C.M. Leggitt	7 months 1912-1913	Professional Certificate
Roscoe P. Baker, Prin.	7 months 1913-1914	1st Grade Certificate
Allalee Mosher	7 months 1913-1914	2nd Grade Certificate
Bruce Polley, Prin.	7 months 1914-1915	2nd Grade Certificate
Bessie McNealy	7 months 1914-1915	2nd Grade Certificate
Claude Bettis	7 months 1915-1916	
Bessie McNealy	4 months 1915-1916	2nd Grade Certificate
Dora Warner	3 months 1916	Normal Training Cert.
Grace Shinn	8 months 1916	1st Grade Certificate
Grace Shinn	1 month 1917	1st Grade Certificate
Floy Stark	7 months 1917-1918	1st Grade Certificate
Eunice Mitchell	8 months 1918-1919	Normal Training Cert.
Eunice Mitchell	8 months 1919-1920	Normal Training Cert.
Clara D. Smith	8 months 1920-1921	
May Swiercinsky	8 months 1921-1922	Normal Training Cert.
May Swiercinsky	8 months 1922-23	normal Training Cert.
Edith Woods	8 months 1923-24	normal Training Cert.
Clela Yeager	8 months 1924-25	Normal Training Cert.
Mildred Smith	8 months 1925-26	Normal Training Cert.
South room put into use again for the 4 higher grades		
Mildred Smith	8 months 1926-27	Normal Training Certificate
Gertrude Magnusson	8 months 1926-27	Normal Training Certificate
Francis E. Rizek	8 months 1927-28	2nd Grade Certificate
Gertrude Magnusson	8 months 1927-28	Normal Training Cert.
Francis E. Rizek	8 months 1928-29	2nd Grade Certificate
Wanda Parrot	8 months 1928-29	Normal Training Certificate
Adeline Sjolholm	8 months 1929-30	Normal Training Certificate
Wanda Parrot	4½ months 1929-30	Normal Training Certificate
Marjorie Douglas	3¾ months 1930-31	Normal Training Certificate
Marjorie Douglas	8 months 1930-31	Normal Training Certificate
Glen Barleen	8 months 1930-31	Normal Training Certificate



When Mrs. Hazel Mulch taught Union Valley in there were eleven pupils shown in this

picture: Back row, left to right, Gary Householder, LaVon Boman, Darlene Steward, Barbara Mahaffey, Richard Mikesell, Francis Sterba and Barbara Sterba. Fron row: Gary Boman, Johnny Swiercinsky, Linda Housholder, and Marvin Steward.

Consolidation added Odell and Elm Grove to the district, but in 1962 the district closed the school as only three pupils attended the 1961-92 term. Union Valley had 91 years of school and voted in 1962 to annex to the Belleville Schools.

Union Township bought the building and grounds to use as a voting place.



## DISTRICT 40 — MANNING SCHOOL

For the early history of Manning School, the reader needs to look at the first District 5 history from which this school was organized in 1877. One acre of land was purchased for \$10 from Melton Tootle. It was located in the SW corner of the NE¼ of Section 28 of Elk Creek Township. A large frame schoolhouse was built to replace the old log school that had served the large area for seven years. E. Ray and W.H. Bell built it for \$575.

In early years as many as fifty pupils attended school here. One of the favorite activities on a Friday afternoon was to choose up sides and have a "ciphering match". Three arithmetic problems were given to two pupils, one from each side, and the one who was fastest to get the problem correct in two out of three was winner. The captain of the losing side then chose one to oppose the winner at the blackboard. The new competitor got to choose the kind of problem he or she thought would overcome the other side. The loser then chose the next kind of problem until that match was over. After all of one side had been defeated, the other side was declared the winner of the week. Sometimes spelling matches were the diversion. These were sometimes used for the community gathering at the schoolhouse. Words were pronounced to the sides, standing and spelling in turn. When a word was misspelled that person was "down". This continued until all of one side was "down". Excitement ran high at these events.

In 1909 a tornado completely demolished the Manning School. That same summer a new schoolhouse was built to replace it. School enrollment gradually decreased during the next quarter century so that no school was taught at Manning School in 1936. Two pupils were transported to the Agenda Grade School. In 1951 there were only five pupils and in 1952 pupils were sent to other districts. In 1953 school was discontinued and the district was annexed to Agenda District 113 after a period of 83 years. The Manning Schoolhouse was moved to Agenda in September, 1953 to be remodeled and used for a lunchroom. A tile floor, hot and cold running water, formica topped tables for dining, a modern kitchen with an electric stove, mixer, refrigerator, a large chest freezer and double sink gave the old building a "new look"



and it served as an eating place for nearly a hundred grade and high school pupils, teachers and staff. This hot nourishing lunch for a nominal charge was a far cry from the syrup pail lunch that the children would often find still frozen from the cold walk to school in an earlier day.

When we write about food, some of you will be reminded of the W.H. Flick family. They moved to Kansas City and operated a bakery. They delivered cookies to various restaurants in north central Kansas under the brand names of "Grandma Flick's Oatmeal Cookies". To this day a few restaurants still handle this brand of cookies, but the bakery is now under different management.

The old Manning School has not yet served her time. When Unified School District No. 455 was formed for the eastern part of Republic County, the building was



converted into City Hall. City business is conducted here, the school pictures and trophies are displayed, and the old school has a gray coat of paint for her respectable position she now holds and we salute her long career!

Our City Hall is used for city business, also our school pictures and trophies are on display.

Mrs. Anver Bowman taught the longest number of years at Manning, helping through the transition period when District 5 disorganized and annexed the east part to Manning.



In 1948-50 Phyllis Anderson-Havel taught two terms and has loaned us pictures. Pupils for her first term were:

Front row - Tommy Thompson, Laurann Folsom, Kenneth Hicks and Gene Trimble.

Back row: Dan Chizek, Bud Folsom, Gerald Thompson, Cleora Hicks and Rodene Trimble.

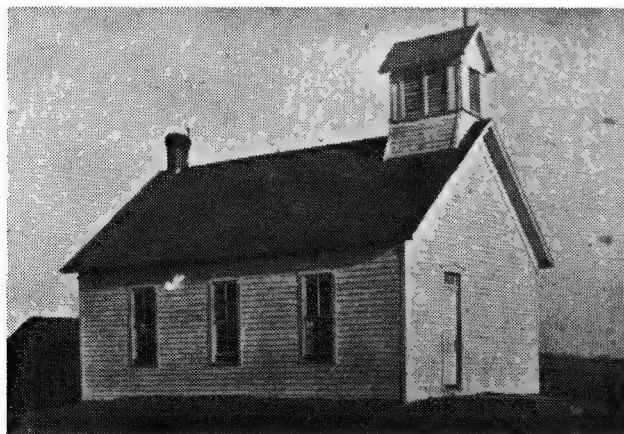


We find a few new names the 1949-50 term: front row - Tommy Thompson, Jimmy Anderson, Mary Ilene Bottger, Laurann Folsom and Kenneth Hicks.

Back row - Gerald Thompson, the teacher Mrs. Phyllis Havel, Rodene Trimble, Cleora Hicks and Gene Trimble.

#### DISTRICT 41 - WILLOWDALE

Willowdale School is located in the SE corner of Section 14 in Freedom Township. It was two miles north and one east of Belleville. District 41 was organized on June 14, 1871, however, records show that in 1895 the Board members were: J.A. Swenson, A.B. Cheney, and W.D. Hall.



The first school of which there is a record was in 1887; the teacher, Tena Dickerhoff. the attendance was thirty-six. Pupils were from the Scofield, Marsh, Collins and Ward families.

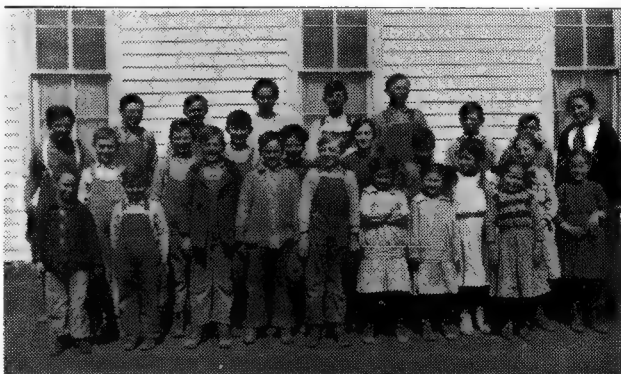
In 1900 the teacher was F.C. Payne. This picture of Willowdale pupils and teacher, Miss Ora Branson (Moore), is dated 1904: Bottom row (Left to right) Jim Swenson, Merton Hubbard, Bill DeWolf. Charley Kelley, and Ross Swenson. Second row: Gertie Marsh, Maudie Paulen, Charles Hanzlick, Willie Kelley, Merle Dooley, Eula Swenson, Bert Kopp and Mable Reed.



Third row: Dean Swenson, Joe Hanzlick, Mary Hanzlick, Edna Reed, John Hubbard, Glen Kopp, and Ethel Reed.

Back row: Neva Templeton, Hall, the teacher Miss Branson (Moore), May Stainbrook and John Reed.

The new modern schoolhouse was built in 1916 and became a Standard Rural School February 19, 1920. Miss Anna Coufal was the teacher and Mary Jansky was County Superintendent. There were twenty-two pupils at that time.



In 1914 Mabel Walker (Swenson) was the teacher with twenty-five in this picture.

Other teachers in later years were Doris Thompson (Dunback), Gerald Riley, Muriel Reed (Tallent), Hazle Poole (Hanzlick) and the last teacher was Alosia Baxa.

The school was closed in 1938 and in May 1951 the district was annexed to District No. 43, Spring Hill. Mr. and Mrs. Ross Swenson, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hanzlick loaned us these pictures.

Ross and Leigh Swenson in this picture remind us of how we traveled to and from school about 1914.



#### DIST. 42 - ENTERPRISE SCHOOL

Enterprise School located three miles east of Courtland began with a subscription school and was the first school in Courtland Township. Mr. Marvin Humphrey has related to us that about 1869 the lumber for the first schoolhouse was secured from the sawmill near Scandia. This cotton wood lumber was used to build the first frame schoolhouse that was sodded up. Minnie Levike Bettis was one of the first pupils in this schoolhouse.

Charles Peterson acted as interpreter when the school was being organized. County Superintendent, A.D. Marble dated the organization July 7, 1871. The Board members were: J.H. Calvin director, J.D. McPherson clerk, and David Matheny treasurer. The same officers were elected the following year.



The oldest picture for Enterprise School we have probably dates in the 1890's. The teacher was Ona Glasgow shown here with 38 pupils. Mr. Humphrey recalled the names of these that were in school at that time: Grace and Maggie Bell, Bob and Charles Poage, Ollie, Reuben, Lydia, and Elsie Bettis; Albert and

Lavinia Garman; Flossie Johnson, Clyde Humphrey, two Jackson girls, Stella, Della, Nettie, Mabel, Clifford and Charley Roe; Lloyd and Herman (Chub) Davis.

Mr. Humphrey remembers starting to school in this new frame schoolhouse about 1898. If you look closely, you can see where the new addition (1910) of 16 or 20 feet joined the original building, adding another window and more space to the front of the building.

James D. Davis loaned us this picture taken about 1916-17. The teacher was Mary Gile. The pupils were: left to right- Front row- James Davis, Archie Isaacson, Carl Wells, Arthur Knudson, Elmer Isaacson, Oliver Baassart, Laura Baassart, Arthur Jackson, Ivan Poage, Russel Larsen, Eleanor Jackson, Agnes Isaacson, Second row - Leta Knudson, Lucille Wells, Roy Poage, Russell Moe, Artie Poage, Orvilla Poage, Allen Barnhart, Lauren (Hap) Davis, Orlando Knudson, Edna Poage, Grethel Wells, Frances Larson, and the teacher Mary Gile.

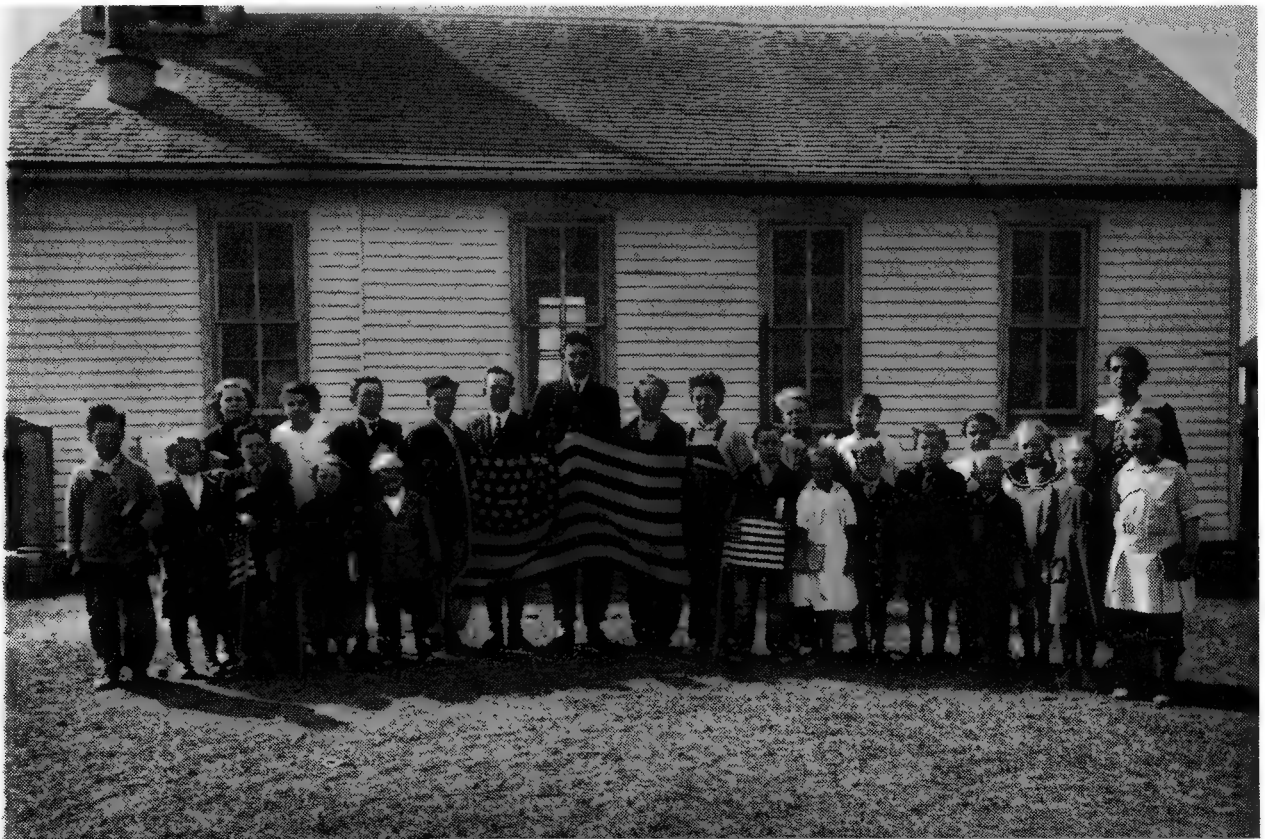
In the year 1893, A. Glasgow and Helen Glasgow taught for the sum of \$25.00 per month.

Twenty-five pupils attended at Dist. 42 in 1875 when school opened May 3rd and ended August 19th. The length of school depended upon the amount of money available. When it ran out, school closed.

In 1885 there were 23 pupils the first half of the term and 32 pupils the last half.

By 1890, 45 pupils attended Enterprise School. Miss Emma Poage taught in 1889 at a salary of \$30 per month and was employed 32 weeks. The total paid out was \$287.83 and amount received, \$257.76, so the district was owing \$30.07.

In 1908, Mr. Charles Zavodsky taught Dist. No. 42 and his Souvenir calls it the Miller School. L. W. Nutter was the County Superintendent and the Board members were: Theodore F. Otto, director; J.S. Garman, treasurer; A.M. Poage, clerk. This picture was taken from The Courtland Journal, but identification is not given - only the names as







they appear on the Souvenir: Alvin Anderson, Arthur Anderson, Esther Sanderson, Ewel Bettis, Ward Bettis, Dewey Bell, Maggie Bell, Rachel Bell, Esther Chrysong, Mabel, Marvin, Ruben Chrysong, Elva Daniel, Axtell Humphrey, Marvin Humphrey, Birdie Meek, Dollie, and Harry Meek, Clare Otto., Rollo Thompson, Guy and Lee Daniel, Elic and Elmer Evert, Agnes, Arthur, Esther, Henry, Robert, and Ruby Freeman, Dwight, John and Lloyd Garman, Francis Daniel, Edythe and Stephen Humphrey, Clarence and Goldie Meek, Inez Marble, Thomas Poage, and Carl Wallin.



In Enterprise School (year and teacher unknown) , these were the pupils: back row, left to right - Katherine Moe, Jack Davis, in front of him Ruth Bell, Archie Isaacson, Willard Bell, Wesley Bell and Jim Davis.

Middle row: CLarice Wallin, Frances Larson, Eleanor Jackson, Leona Davis, Raymond Isaacson, Carl Humphrey, Russell Larson, Elmer Isaacson and Max Muth.

Front row: Ruth Davis, Verna Wallin, Glada Bell, Maxine, Muth, Kathryn Thompson, Gail Humphrey, Ralph Larson and Lloyd Larson.

In 1920 or 1921 this beautiful brick school house replaced the earlier frame sturcture. It still stands and is used as a Community Center. The picture was taken at the Homecoming, April 18, 1935. (Courtesy of Lottie Berggren). The site is in the SE corner of Sec. 14 in Courtland Township or from Scandia, it is three miles west on Higheay No. 36 and one mile south.



When Miss Elaine Loring taught here her pupils were: front row- Billy Farrell, Howard Brewster, Ben Brown, Keith Jackson, and Miss Loring. Back row- Ila Marie Moe, Florence Berggren, Evelyn Berggren and Georgie Lee Isaacson.



When Miss Edna Robison taught here in 1927-28, these were her 25 pupils: Orland Erickson, Gail Humphrey, Chester Erickson, Clarice Wallin, Russell Larson, Lorraine Nelson, Bernice Jackson, Ruth Davis, Verna Wallin, Kathryn Thompson, Glada Bell, Maxine Muth, Paul Humphrey, Ralph Larson, Claudia Freeman, Dalphene Stinson, Irene Skidmore, Orvin Bell, Andy Thompson, George Thompson, Vincent Larson, Irving Isaacson, Carl Nelson, Lloyd Larson, and Raymond Isaacson.





### DISTRICT 43 - SPRING HILL

Unique for its two windows on each side, Spring Hill Dist. No. 43 was built in the SE corner of Section 2 in Freedom Township (Old location was 5 miles north of Belleville - this one was a mile east of the first one). This picture was taken in 1912 when Miss Neva Templeton was the teacher. The pupils were: Ray and Vinna Fry; Blanche, Elsie, and Clara Novak; Harold, Edith and Orval Redenbo; Bessie and Beulah Templeton; Ida Milner, Anna Smith, Hazel Stutzman, Clarence Tyler, and Wanda and Lee Kinney. (Picture courtesy Mrs. Sarah Proft).

On July 8, 1872 Spring Hill was organized, but not until in 1874 was Dist. No. 43 set off as a separate district in Freedom Township. A three-acre plot was set off in the NE corner for the schoolhouse. The school was named Spring Hill (it was built on a small hill where there were many springs).

Records show that Nellie Clark taught from December until March in 1876-77 - three months for \$10 a month. Ida Cooper also was one of the first teachers in Dist. 43 in 1876. She taught for three months for \$25 a month.

John Watson was the first school director and G.A. Harvey was elected as clerk for a 3-year term. A tax of one percent was levied on taxable property in the district for the teacher's salary.

There seems to be no record of any building other than the small frame 1875 structure which was improved as money permitted. In 1878 a special election was held but no money was available to improve the condition of the building, so the board was instructed to make the school as comfortable as possible for the winter.

In 1879 it was voted to charge 50 cents per pupil for tuition and use of textbooks (the board bought the books, but no uniform texts were used). Also it was decided that Franklin Style lightning rods were to be placed on the building.

In 1880, A.A. Chiney was to take a team and wagon and go to Scandia for a load of "good, seasoned" wood to wainscoat the schoolhouse inside 3½ feet up from the floor. Mr. Chiney was also instructed to do the work for \$1.50 per day.

The same year Johnny Watson was hired to get three tons of coal for \$15, delivered. In 1882 it was voted to plant and cultivate trees on the school grounds. In 1883 a new coal house was built.

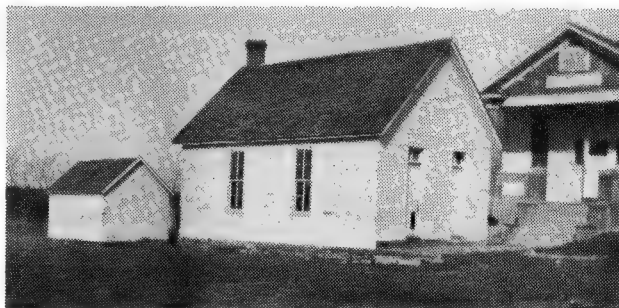
From 1873 to 1892 church services were held regularly

in the Spring Hill schoolhouse. In 1892 the Spring Hill Society of the Methodist Church decided to build a church at another location.

In 1877 the board was instructed to purchase from George Harrison three cords of wood for fuel for \$5, and to hire a teacher for as long as the money would last. In 1878 a winter and a summer term of school was held. The district bought the books and there was no more tuition charged. In 1880 there were 40 pupils enrolled.

In 1885 it was voted to change to another series of text books and each pupil furnish his own. By 1886 the first eight-month school was voted with five fall months and three summer months. The teachers were not to make up days on Saturdays.

In 1887 they voted to have not less than eight months nor more than nine months of school in one term. A tax of 12 mills on the dollar for school purposes was voted and this was raised to 15 mills in 1888 with eight months of school, or more if funds held out. In 1892 school started in September to run as long as possible. In these years the teacher's salary ranged from \$20 per month to as much as \$100 in the 1920's. By 1889 "all textbooks were to be uniform." In 1891 the old stove wore out, so a new one was purchased. In 1892 they built a stage at the front of the schoolroom. In 1902 locks were put on the windows and in 1914 a vote was cast to drill a well on the schoolgrounds. A new floor was put in the building in 1916.



Miss Emma Klaumann taught Spring Hill two years (1917-19) during the building of the new school house. In 1918 a petition was made to build a new schoolhouse which would meet the requirements of a Standard School in the future. At the election on May 15, 15 voted for the new building and five against. Bonds were voted for \$2800 and the contract was awarded to H.F. Myers for \$3095. By November 4, 1918 the pupils moved into the new school. In 1919 a new cement sidewalk to the well was constructed.

Miss Klaumann has loaned us pictures of transition





and the pupils who moved from the "old to the new" were: Beulah and Paul Templeton, Marion and Edith Seaman, Daisy and Ralph Knedlick, Ival Stutzman; John, Edward, Muriel, and Howard Reed; Ralph and Harold Richardson; Kermit and Kenneth Goodger. Clara, Ralph and Lloyd Novak came in March.

In 1920, the board was advised to hire only an experienced teacher and to buy more books for the library to meet requirements for standardization. These had been met when Spring Hill became a Standard School on April 21, 1922. An appropriate program by the teacher, Miss



Flotella Close, and her pupils: Ival Stutzman,; John, Edward, Muriel and Howard Reed; Ralph, Lloyd and Standley Novak; Kermit, Kenneth, Virgie Goodger; Marion and Edith Seaman; Daisy, Ralph and Harold Richardson; Paul Templeton; and Joe, Ann and Lillian Rundus (all are in the picture except Paul Templeton and the Rundus children). The school board members were: W.A. Seaman, Frank Kendlick, and Will Richardson. Three generations of Richardsons served on the school board during the years: H.N. Richardson, his son, William and grandson Harold.

The large Standard School was struck by lightning

(there must not have been rods on the new school!) and was burned to the ground in 1947, having served for 29 years. At this time Mrs. Alta McDaniel (Snapp) was the teacher. A steel quonset building was erected and served as a school building until the district was disorganized in 1962.

On May 3, 1951 a special election was held to annex Willow Dale Dist. 41 to Spring Hill Dist. 43. Action was completed July 1, 1951.

On December 14, 1959 a petition from District 54, Freedom, was made to transfer a portion of that district to District 43. The action carried and now Spring Hill consisted of three former districts - 41, 43 and 54.

By 1961-62 the enrolment was down to seven. Mrs. Veda Dovol (Narka) was the teacher. Her salary was \$3600 for the term. Charles Bucknell, Alfred Levendofsky and Edwin Scofield were the board members. The pupils were; Donna and Carol Sterba; Barbara and Steven Zukowske; Raymond Danielson, Emil Keller and Douglas Levendofsky. At the close of this term, Spring Hill District was annexed to the Belleville District 14 and the school days at Spring Hill were over.

A motto found in an old record book of Dist. 43 in 1888 was: He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good, And he who so trusteth in the Lord happy is he. The wise in heart shall be called prudent, And the sweetness of the like increaseth learning.

The steel quonset building was moved to Belleville and is being used as a storage building. The little spot on the hill, where many received their formal education is a quiet reminder of the many happy days of our youth.

Researched and compiled by: Muriel Reed Tallent



#### DIST. 44 - STAR SCHOOL (EAST STAR)

The Star schoolhouse was first located on the north side about the center of Section 14. Since it was quite near Blue Grass School on the south side of Section 14, a group of patrons decided to move the Star schoolhouse to a more central location.

On Halloween night (after dark) they started the venture, going north across the field. About halfway across the section they broke down! It was a surprising sight the next morning to see the schoolhouse sitting in the middle of the section. Later the building was moved 1½ miles farther north and across the road.

This school district was known as East Star as there was another school in the county named Star. This school

was also known as Mr. Joy's Napoleon School. It was a community center as were most of the schools of that time. As was listed in The Belleville Telescope of February 1888, Lyceums were held with good attendance.

Some early day families were: Joys, Jotters, Litels, Hutchinsons, Cossaarts and Byrds. Early board members were Aden Joy and C.D. Cossaart.

Some early day remembrances (which were common of all early day schools) were: the water would be carried in a bucket from the nearest farm home, a large tin cup would be passed with the bucket so that each child might have a drink, the last period on Friday was used for "matches" or contests in spelling, arithmetic and geography - events to which the pupils looked forward.

Some early teachers were: Charlie Yates, Stella Havel, Ethel Edwards, and Dora Baker. The last teacher was Darlene Hinks.

The last Board members were: Chester Cossaart, Jesse C. Graham, and Wesley Lowe. Later, the building was sold and the district disorganized.



Picture year approximately 1906

Back Row: L to R, Ethel Elliott, teacher; Bertha Joy, Verna Graham, Ida Cossaart, Rosie Smith, Stell Gleason, Hattie Mitchell, Elmer Joy.

Front Row: l to R, Ernest Graham, Herbert Graham, Vern Lytle, Leslie Redforn, Esther Cossaart, Leslie Cossaart, Raymond Smith, Laura Cossaart, Ethel Lytle, Alice Cooperider, Ethel Graham, Ada Joy, Grace Smith Floyd Lytle.

Teachers (as recalled by former students, Ada Joy Feil, Leslie Cossaart, Vesta Cossaart Kvasnicka) are: Charlie Yates, Dora Edwards Baker, Ethel Elliott Edwards, Mary Walker, Sadie Bobenhouse, Stella Hunt Joy, Frank Losey, Hannah Bryan, Bertha Baker, Paul Lytle, Earl Lytle, Claire Graham, Ethel Graham, Stella Havel, Gladys Graham, Winona Hatch, Nellie Wells, Clarence Craft, Vera Corbett Nelson, Wendell Kerr, and Lucille Springs.

**THE PINE SCHOOL-DISTRICT 45  
BIG BEND TOWNSHIP  
BY - MARY JANSKY -PRICE**

One hardly knows where to start in writing a history of a school. Since we are told to be as brief as possible, I



will just cover the high lights.

The records tell us that the Pine was the first school district organized in this township. At first, it embraced all of the land north of the White Rock Creek, west of the Republican River. Albert B. Young was the first teacher, and Jesse Thomas was one of the first pupils.

The building was a little log cabin, made of cottonwood, with cracks chinked up with mud and straw. Cottonwood salbs, with wooden pins were used as seats; another board nailed up back of the seats, served as a desk, so that the children had to turn their backs to the teacher when they wanted to write.

The school was organized soon after 1868. Several of the earliest settlers among whom were Mr. and Mrs. W.R. Charles, I.F. Kelly and R.J. Stanfield. Mrs. Lydia Charles was a woman of advanced education and soon saw the need of schooling for the children of the district, and worked toward that goal. Mrs. Charles was the grandmother of Don Charles, who has lived on the homestead practically all his life. The farm is known as "Valley Point" so named because of the converging of the White Rock Creek and the River, making a "point".

Meetings were held regularly each year, to provide fuel, etc. for the school and to hire teachers. For many





years native wood was provided at so much per "rick". Teachers were hired at about \$30.00 for a three-month term.

During the fall and winter, the older boys would stay at home to help pick corn and help with other farm work.

My advent into the district, came in 1911, on the recommendation of W.M. Slopansky, who was then County Superintendent. He had been my teacher when I finished the 8th Grade and helped me to get this very desirable school. In my first interview with the Board, I liked everything. The building was nice and kept well painted, and had a beautiful school ground for children to enjoy. When I returned, in September, to take up my duties, imagine my surprise to find that a lovely linoleum had been laid on the floor - something no other school in the county had. How proud we all were! It made the school house seem like home.

In the fall the older girls and I made cottage curtains, to dress up the windows. We always liked to decorate each month with seasonable decorations - first Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Kansas (January) February (Patriotic), then toward the end of the year the big event was the "Last Day of School" which meant a lengthy program and a big dinner.

Among our Community projects we organized a club for the boys, and a Cooking Club for the girls. None of us knew too much about cooking, but we tried.

During two of the summer vacations, the district promoted a week's Chautauqua, sponsored by several Extension people from the College at Manhattan. The lady in charge fixed the school room into a kitchen, using mosquito netting on the windows, to keep out flies. An oil stove, with an oven was used to bake and cook. The men folks were usually invited in to sample any choice bit of food that was prepared. It was fun (and work) for everyone.

Throughout the week there was a period for practice each day, making preparation for a Historical Pageant, in which each child had speaking or acting part. There were folk games, folk dances, patriotic songs, and speeches. The "Show" was put on the last night of the week and it was indeed, a success.

The district furnished the week's finances, and it was well worth the cost.

Winter time brought several Lyceum numbers - all good and educational, as well as entertaining.

Through the four years of my teaching the Pine, we worked toward qualifying for a Standard plate, but a good heating stove, rather than the old iron "pot bellied" type, was the one thing needed. This was added the next year, so Pine became the fourth school to standardize.

Now I must mention those who attended school during my four years in this district: There were several Nystroms, the Garmans, two families of Conzelmans, Tedrows, the Charles, the Helmers, Moons, Ruddells, and the Elliots.

Some of the teachers following me were: Janet Hobson, Thelma Stafford, Claribelle Swartz, Zola Erkenbrack, Erma Davidson, Elsie and Lillie Sankey. I hope I haven't left out anyone.

Yes, we had the finest grounds in the county, and cement walks to all buildings. Shade trees, set out by some of the earlier residents, supplied plenty of shade for hot days, as well as adding beauty to the grounds.

About 1873 a meeting was held to vote bonds for a

better building. The Pine was the first building to be made of lumber (pine)—hence the name. For over fifty years there was a member of the Charles family on the Board.

Later, school was discontinued, and united with the Republic District (Dist. 63). Still later, the school house and all the contents were sold at auction. Dr. C.A. Noble bought the building and moved it to his farm across White Rock Creek (south). Not long after, a tornado tore through the area, making splinters of our once loved school house. We can say, indeed, it was "Gone With the Wind".

Good Bye, dear Schoolhouse, with all your memories and friends, nothing will ever take your place.

THE PASSING OF  
THE COUNTRY SCHOOL  
FROM THE BOOSTER FILES -  
ABOUT 1940 or 41  
By - Kamp Charles

I have been asked to write something in the way of recollections of Pine School days — I suppose because the Pine like hundreds of other rural schools may soon be just a memory, under the new Kansas school law. There are others, such as Joe Kelly, who probably could do a better job of it, because they have lived more of their life right there in the Pine neighborhood.

I mention Joe, because he and I are of the same age (our birthdays are just 12 days apart) and we both started to school back in the fall on 1899, shortly after both of us had reached the age of five. Perhaps Joe would like to write something of his recollections. Anyway, some of the older generation who are now gone from Republic, may like to read what some of us remember, as well as the younger ones who are now away at war. May they all return soon!

When I started to school 46 years ago this fall, there was not question of having enough pupils to make it worthwhile to have school. As I recall it, there were at least 25 or 30 pupils. They came from families whose names will be remembered by any of the old-timers, although perhaps not be some of the newer residents. At any rate, there were many more desks in the school building then there are now, and they were all filled.

The Pine, standing as it does at the cross roads, always drew pupils from each of the four directions, and as I recall, there often was rivalry between the various groups, depending on the direction from which they came each morning and left each night.

From the north there came the Garmans, the Kellys, the Andersons (later the Denoyers) and the Kohls. From the west there were the Helmers and the Nitchers and in the very early days of my attendance, the Harris and the Hursts. From the south there were the Tedrows and the Nystroms, and when I was very small, Dorcas Mosher and Jesse Thomas also came up the road from that direction. From the east there were the Charles children, and at different times children from the Clark, Laws, Shindler, Ruddell and other families. There probably are names of other families on the old school registers. I hope these old school records are kept in the neighborhood, if the Pine is consolidated with other schools. There must be many others who went to school at Pine at the beginning of this century, who would like as they grow older and return to their early homes, to have a look at



these records, just to see what memories they might bring. (Those of you who are younger should remember that as you grow older your mind turns backward, more than forward - you have so much more of your life back of you, than you have ahead of you.)

Among the pupils at the Pine in the days of my attendance there, and I name them only from memory, were Will, Ida, Jennie, Hannah, Ellen,, Winnie, Joe and Nellie Kelly; Notia, Lew, Frank, Eva, Hattie, Florence, Vera and Ari Garman, (Darrell came later); Orval, Vic, Ellen, Emma, Esther, Ethel and Charley Anderson; Lou, Joe and Elsa Kohl. (There was no lack of children in those days.)

Then there were Ralph, Sylvia and Verda Helmer; John, Fred and Charley Nitcher; Stella, Albert, Orval and Sylvia Harria; Glen and Dale Tedrow; Ernie, Carl Laurence and Les Nystrom, and the four older Charles children — Kamp, Esther, Ethel and Gene. The four Laws children, Henrietta, Mildred, Arthur and Frances were about our ages.

Of the Denoyers I remember Ren, Esther, Bertha, Celia, Dora, Leonard and Twin. There were others, most of them as I remember, younger than I. Harry Lowe attended Pine for awhile, as did Tommy Conzelman for a year or so after I started.

If I have misnamed anyone, or omitted any names, it is unintentional. It is hard to be sure of names of persons you haven't seen for over 40 years. And here again I suggest that the editor have Joe Kelly, Frank Garman, Jesse Thomas or some of the others who have lived continuously in the Pine district check what I write. They are better historians than I.

I spoke of not having seen some of these Pine pupils for nearly half a century. But I have thought often of them. And who does not remember childhood friends best of all! I wonder where some of them are, and if some are no longer living. I read the other day that after middle age you seldom make friends — you just make acquaintances. Probably it is true.

The teachers, as I recall them, under whom I went to school were Ella Fogelberg, Homer Clark, Jesse James, Belle Fogelberg, and Earl Martin. The latter was, I believe, a nephew of Mr. Garman, and came from Illinois. I believe Jesse James was the only one who taught more than two terms, as in those days two terms for both teachers and presidents usually was considered enough.

I remember as a small boy during a presidential election, that we were yelling for either McKinley or Bryan — mostly the former — although I don't think any of us knew why we rooted for one or the other. It was just that like all children, we echoed our parents' opinions.

One of my recollections is of the old pump on the school grounds. After a summer's layoff it often did not work. Then there was a constant request from two children to be permitted to go to the neighbors for a bucket of water — anything to get out of school. In those early, hot fall days, we were about as thirsty after going for water down a dusty road, as we were when we started. And often the bucket, after slopping along between two pairs of small, bare legs, was not more than half full after it reached the schoolhouse.

When I was home this summer I attended a meeting one evening of Pine district people, a meeting called to discuss the new school law. It may have been the last time I'll ever be inside the old building, and it brought

memories of spelling down, of ciphering matches on Friday afternoon, of box suppers, of rainy days when we were allowed to play in the cob shed, of the straw houses we boys used to build, of jumping the rope, and of the games we played such as "one 'ol cat" and "two 'ol cat", shinny, black man, and fox and geese in the snow.

When I started to school the term was, as I recall, only seven months, although it was soon changed to eight. There were no grades. You were in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th or 5th readers. As you grew older, if you kept on coming to school, you just repeated what you had the year before. And many of the big boys came only in the winter after the corn was out, and before stalk cutting time in the spring. Very few pupils went on to high school, which in those days in Republic was not over two or three years. I believe the third year was added the year I started to high school, in 1908.

Many will recall Homer Clark and his horse, Fleet, which used to try to come into the schoolhouse, when the door was open; Jesse James coming out from Republic on his bicycle, and Belle Fogelberg and the black horse, Doc, which she drove to school each morning.

Each of us has memories of school days, and I have already set down too many of mine. If the editor has room for them, I should like to read some of the recollections of others who attended school at the Pine.

I cannot resist a word of tribute to the parents of the boys and girls with whom I went to school: to the fathers and mothers of the Garmans, the Kellys, the Kohls, the Helmers, the Nitchers, the Tedrows, the Nystroms, the Thomases, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Laws, Mrs. Jane Mosher, and others and to my own parents. Most of them are gone now, but finer people I have never known, and their sons and daughters are a testimonial to their worth as citizens.

I now live in Alexandria, Va., just outside Washington, D.C., but Republic and the Pine community always will be home, a place to which I hope to return some day.

As to what goes on in Washington, and has taken place in the nation in the last few years, I believe only history will give a clear picture. I hope I live to read this history and compare it with my recollections of what has happened. With kindest regards to all the old friends and neighbors, I am,

Sincerely,  
Kamp Charles

#### DISTRICT 46 - NORTH OF MUNDEN

Researched by Frantiska Palacek  
1967 photo by Laverne Palacek

Rose Creek Twsp., Republic County, in the state of Kansas, U.S.A. Site of District 46 school house on Section



28, N.E. ¼ in the S.E. corner. According to the 1884 Republic County Atlas, District 56 was 1½ miles north of Munden on the west side of the road. 1904 Republic County Atlas does not show District 46, apparently it was discontinued.

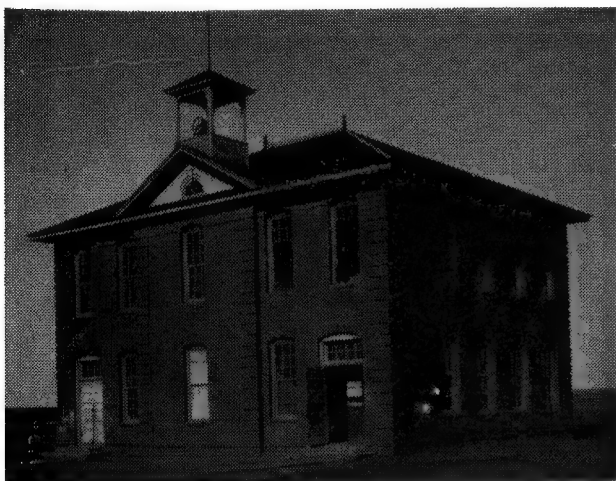
According to older residents living near this site, the school house was moved 1½ miles north and then was called Rose Creek, 116.

District 46 was disorganized on Dec. 10, 1888.

Today only limestone rock can be found where the foundation of District 46 was situated in 1884-1904. The farm is owned by Frantiska Palecek.

#### DISTRICT 46 - COURTLAND SCHOOL

Dist. 46 was organized on Sept. 9, 1871, in Courtland Township. This brick school served from 1889 until 1909.



In 1895, the teachers were George H. Litsinger, Courtland, Libby Lawrence, Courtland.

Board members were: Albert Hasket, Joseph Burnett, and Henry Squire.

In September of 1897 Miss Ona Glasgow was the teacher and the same Board members held positions as in 1895.

57 pupils are named:

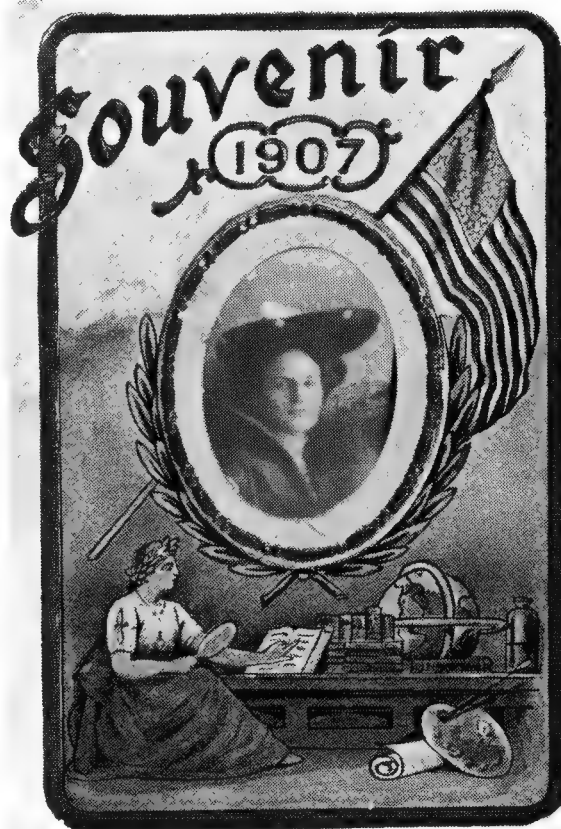
Otis Arge	Charles Stewart	Edna Gibbins
Leroy Burnett	Paul Smith	Coy Haskett
Joseph Burnett	Minnie Smith	Fern Haskett
Perry Black	Albert Simons	Henry Jennings
Jessie Bateman	Eben Spencer	Pearl Jones
Lon Conaway	John Spencer	Susie Lawrence
Leonard Conner	Frank Tucker	May Lewis
Andrew Campbell	Elsie Weaver	Ruby Petersom
Eli Dobbins	Frank Weaver	Lyle Peterson
Edwin Davis	Jessie Bradley	Jennie Shelton
Mattie Davis	James Burnett	Harley Smith
Alice Gibbins	Albert Black	Bessie Simons
Vadie Hasket	Claude Bateman	Joseph Simons
Pearl Jennings	Edna Clark	Robert Spencer
Maggie Hennings	Charley Conaway	Ross Sleight
Charley Lawrence	Francis Conner	Ferg Vincent
Cleo Lawrence	Floyd Campbell	Leora Weaver
Edwin Petersen	Carl Dobbins	Willie Weaver
Bernice Petersen	Arthur Davis	Earl Wurth

September 25, 1888, the first school district of Cour-

land (No. 46) was organized from territory taken from District no. 74 and District 96. School was held in a frame building on Main Street where the Heidricks Recreation now stands. It was a twelve week term with one teacher.

The next year, 1889, a new brick building was completed. There were three rooms, two on the lower floor and one on the upper floor. This building was erected on the site of the present building. There were two teachers, as only elementary education was given. The school term was six months. By 1894-1895, the term was eight months.

There was very little equipment in the school. Desks, small black board space and slates, with scratchy pencils, were at a premium. Students made workbooks and the text books were what they could beg or borrow. Various subjects were taught, McGuffery's readers were widely used.



One of the well-known teachers of the county was Gertrude Nutter. This Souvenir (1907) had her picture and contains the names of pupils she taught in grades five, six and seven: Grade Five - Victor Tucker, Ora Huntington, Lewis Black, DeWayne Glasgow, George Camp, Irving Jewitt, Alford Johnson, Leonard Cahill, Chloe Goble, Mamie McCreight and Minnie Anderson. Grade Six - Clara Stagg, Archie Workman, Moris Spencer, Altha, Tebow, Estill Hennon, Paul Meek, Ray Neel, Mary Whitley, Archie McGraw, Floy McCreight, Luther Tilley, Vere Tonkin, Oma Davis, Hazel Amis, Marion Black, Ruth Strickler and Hortense Weber. Grade Seven - Roscoe Tipton, Bula Johnson, Frank Wray, Esther Blackburn, George Johnson, Ferol Sanders, Myrtle Goble, Bee Tucker, Grace Tucker, Elmer Marty, Mamie Huntington, Helena Bland, Lloyd Vincent and Lula Fogle.

The Board members were: J.E. Tucker, director;

O.H. Kinman, treasurer; and John Dtudley, clerk. The County Superintendent was L.W. Nutter.

In 1906, an addition was made to the brick building, as secondary education had been added earlier with a two year high school. The first class to finish the two year high school was in 1900.



In 1918 Edith Blackburn was the teacher in the Primary Room (Mrs. Esther Johnson shared this picture). There were 33 children.

In 1908, District No. 46, and District No. 74 were consolidated. The first election of officers for the new consolidated district was held September 2, 1908. They decided to have a nine month term and to have a four year high school. The first class to graduate from the four year high school was in 1914.



Several new courses were added in a few years, namely home economics, manual arts and normal training. So again, it was necessary to have more room. Early in the 1920's a residence east of the school was purchased and remodeled, which was used for a primary room and the basement was used as a shower room for the boys athletic teams. A small building on the east served as a shop for manual arts.

By 1934-1935, the high school enrollment had reached 96, so it was necessary to make plans for expansion. It was decided to erect a new brick building on the site of the old structure. The new building would be used for grades and high school. The building was to have eight rooms and an office on the upper floor and six rooms and an auditorium - gymnasium on the lower floor, also rest rooms and showers. The building was approximately 98' by 108'. Dedication service for the new building were held November 14, 1939.



In 1940, a manual arts shop was erected to the west of the school building. Today, this building is used for vocational agriculture.



In 1959, it was found necessary to do some remodeling, making more class rooms and a lunch room. An addition was erected on the east of the building for a new stage and auditorium - gymnasium. Also extra land was purchased to the east for a play ground and parking space.

In 1962 two new buses were purchased to transport pupils to and from school. The initial run was made on October 29, 1962. Elson Landis and Ed Flick were employed to drive the buses.

On July 1, 1965 the school districts of Norway, Kackley, Courtland, and Scandia became Unified District 426 with the office located along Main Street in Scandia. Mr. H.E. Stone was the first school superintendent.

In the 88 years, the Courtland School District has made many improvements and made the system much stronger. The community feels very proud of the school and the fact that the school has always ranked very high with the State Department of Education. The graduates of the Courtland High School have entered most any walk of life that can be mentioned.

#### DISTRICT 47 - HIGHLAND SCHOOL

The first meeting of Highland School District was held on September 11, 1871. The following officers were elected: Sylvester Skeels, director; J.P. Burke, clerk; H.C. Bradley, treasurer. At the Annual School Meeting held March 28, 1872, David Walters was elected director; L.C. Hall, clerk; and J.R. Cox, treasurer.

Between the years 1880 and 1883 Minnette Beecher, E.F. Carpenter, J.T. Spellman, E.E. Rush and J.S. Calvert taught in the Highland District with terms ranging in length from two months to four months and the number of pupils ranged from 43 to 54.





There must have been some mysterious reason for the teacher Mrs. Hattie Loofburrow to have formed her "Apron Gang" in 1903! Like all little girls from that day to this, little girls hated to cover up their pretty dresses with aprons, but mothers always insisted that the one good dress for school must be protected by an apron and we wonder whether the teacher might have motivated the dreadful dolrums by creating a Gang: Olive Rogers, Bessie Fulcomer, Rose Tate, Jennie Bowling, Minnie Sobenborn, Gertie Berry, Goldie Young, Mae Young, Lottie Young and Belva Young. Picture is courtesy of Goldia Stacy.



While Miss Nellie Anderson was the teacher in 1911, this picture was taken at Highland: Back row - Emery

Bowling, Gertrude Berry, Hobart Berry, Archie Berry, Rose Tate, Nellie Anderson (teacher), May Young, Jennie Bowling, Goldie Young. Front row - Chester Woodka, Gladys Young, Belva Young, Lottie Young,, Helen Thompson, Lila Woodka. (Courtesy of Mrs. Stacy.)



Highland School Number 47; Picture courtesy Mrs. B.L. Lash about 1913:

Back Row: Chester Woodka, Archie Berry, May Young, Carrol Goppert, teacher, Lottie Young, Helen Thompson,

Front Row: Charles Woodka, Truman Walter, Berry, Gladys Young, Lila Woodka, Belva Yonng, Orville Siebenborn, Isabelle Berry,



This picture, taken in 1915 in front of the old school, (courtesy of Sadie Decker-Tate) shows: front row - Truman Walter, Orville Seibenborn, Charles Woodka, Lucille Berry, Clyde Snedden, Back row - Helen Thompson, Lottie Young, Gladys young, Sâdie Decker teacher, Belva Young, Archie Berry, Lila Woodka, and Chester Woodka.

Mr. John E. Jones of Concordia sent us the picture of Highland School taken in the 1940s when LaVeda Cornett was teaching there. He also relates that in 1929 the old schoolhouse burned and this one was built. In the late 1940s when Highland School and Lone Tree District 117 consolidated, he says that the Highland School was moved one mile east to the Rydal Road. This would be more central for the two districts.

From 1890 to 1938 these teachers were employed by the district: Ella Kelly, Emma Poage, Charles E. Hense, Lillian M. Chapman, Emma Bullen, Hattie Murphv. Frances Davis, Golda Mahaffey, Nettie Hunter, Mildred Tiller, Margie Carpenter, Sylvia Fogelberg, Elava S. Salisbury, Della Guffin, Ora A. Hinks, Barbara Slinger,



Nellie B. Anderson,, Caro May Goppert, Sadie Decker, Cora C. Anderson, Glenn O. Barleen, Rose Bowling, Rose Tate, Lucile Morley, Bertha Gile, Diane Carpenter, Helen Loofbourrow, Helen Scott, Dorothy M. Brown, Elda Kelly, Grace Jenks, Norman Burandt, Harriet Gile and Naomi Hammer.

Some of the texts used were the Appleton Reader, and Prentiss Kansas History, Hall Physiology, Hoenshell Grammar, Hyde Language. No text was used in arithmetic. Oral arithmetic lessons were given. Programs were often given and a basket dinner was enjoyed on the closing day of school by the entire district.

Records show three later teachers to be LaVeda Cornett, Sylvia Donaldson and Catherine Farlee.

In 1957 Highland voted by ballot to annex with Con. 3 Norway. The officers were: Jake Vanek, director; Harold Dolezol, treasurer; and M.G. Kelly, clerk.

The school building was purchased by Harvey Hammer for an addition to their house.



#### DISTRICT 48 - FORTY-EIGHT SCHOOL

A subscription school was held in a sod house in the bank on the Chester Lewis homestead across the highway south of the Forty-Eight School. Mrs. Josephine Taggart-Smith was the teacher. Mary Rhoda Kelly was a pupil.

On Sept. 11, 1871 District 48 was organized. Its boundaries included Sections 13 and 24, the E½ of Sec. 14, and the east ½ of Sec. 23 in Norway Township, Sections 18 and 19 in Lincoln Township.

The school records show that school was held in 1876 with Tillie Thorp as teacher during May and June. Eva Holland and Lizzie McBride were the next teachers.

A building was erected in 1880 for a cost of about \$400.00 on land provided by Fred Ames. It is now owned by Mrs. Howard Ames. For many years this building served as a meeting place for the Highland Baptist Congregation. (Picture courtesy of Mrs. Milton Sensaas.)

Mrs. Eva Ames has shared this picture of Forty-Eight School pupils:

Forty-Eight School, Bert Ainsworth, teacher about 1898. Courtesy of Mrs. Lloyd Kelly.

Back Row (L to R) Mabel Thorp, Mae Kelly, Harry Walter, Emma Cowle, Frances Loofborrow, Claire Lewis, Addie Gile, B. Ainsworth, Nora Bartlett, Elbert Lee (not a pupil) Fred Hall, Howard Ames. Chet Loofborrow. 2nd Row: Ethan Bryant, Guy Kelly, Cora Lelly, Frances O'Neil, Shirley Kelly, Charlie Ames, Lloyd Kelly. Third Row: Kate Stalling, Bessie Skeels, Lura Kelly, Floyd Walter, Ella Brown. Willie Bryant, Fred Ames and Floyd



Ames are among those sitting on the ground.

From 1880-1904, these teachers were employed by District 48: Flora Bennet, Miss M. Foreman, T.E. Wimer, Susie Bennet, Eva Hall, J. J. Dermet, Fannie Kunkel, Ethel G. Reeves, Hattie Cowle, D. H. Hanline, Elizabeth Galloway, Annette McCrea, Mertie Merphie, H.J. Scrivner, Anna Johnson, Bert Ainsworth, Vern Hyatt, Adella Humphrey, Mabel Crummer, Lula Phelps, Walter Fickel.

Here is a picture of the school in 1908-09 that was



furnished through the courtesy of Mrs. Ada Logan - Henrickson, who taught there that year. In the back row, left to right, are: Floyd Bartlett, Elmer Anderson, Herman Anderson, George Ames,, Forest Kelly, the teacher Ada Logan (Henrickson), Florence Bockoven, Willie , Jessie Bailey, Eva Bockoven, Austa Ames. Ront Row: Roy Gile, Ernest Bockoven, Wesley Ames, Clara Bailey, Maudie Gile (Stensaas), Verna Ames, Bertha Gile (Campbell), Ruth Gile, Walter Gile.

Records are incomplete, but these are some of the teachers who taught Forty-Eight before its closing in 1948: Lloyd Snapp, Margie Carpenter, Ada Logan, Ida Munson, Iva Johnson, Della Fraser, Clara Little, Bertha Gile, Harriet Gile, Myra Sherwood, Alice Ringer, Pauline Larson, Evelyn Carlgren, Elaine Loring, Thressa Kelly, Joan Alkire, Hazel Kuhn, Edythe Lowell and Aileen Ames.

On May 31, 1948 a special election to consolidate with District 37, Stony Point and with District 117, Lone Tree, was held. The partons voted for consolidation with the other two districts.

A motion was made and carried to give the school board power to close the school and send children elsewhere, to pay the tuition and transportation, if necessary. Eva Ames was clerk, F.A. Tallent director, and George N. Ames was treasurer.

#### DISTRICT 49 - LAWRENCE SCHOOL

Mr. Carl A. Westin, Supt. of Public Instruction of Jewell County Schools until the office closed its doors, informs us that this building was constructed in 1900 and was used until the closing of the district. Then it was purchased by Allen Gunter and moved into Scandia and made into his home.



He says that among the students were various occupations and interests. One of them was Ralph Foster, who retired a few years ago as Editor-in-Chief of The Kansas Farmer, leading farm paper in Kansas. Wilber Nelson, another pupil, retired recently from the Los Angeles, California School System. He was elected by 4,200 teachers to be their N.E.A. Representative - true evidence of Wilber's abilities and respect. Others have done well in many areas. Fine students, patrons, board members, and excellent teachers brought about an important era in District 49, declares Mr. Westin.

Lawrence School was organized as number 49 in

Republic County on November 28, 1871. The first board members were Samuel Ingham, John Lawrence and James A. Lawrence. The schoolhouse located two miles north and one east of present Courtland. At its organization there was no Courtland.

The district was comprised of five sections of land until its disorganization. Its territory reached within one-half mile of Courtland City limits. It was named for a homesteader John Lawrence who lived in Section 3 and was Republic County Supt. of Schools from 1880 to 1886. The remains of his early dugout was visible until a few years ago.



Lillie Johnson was the teacher during the term of 1910-11. In the back row, left to right: Ellen Aspegren, Dessie Conley, Mary Conley, the teacher Miss Johnson, Milton Nelson and Elias Conley. Second row from the back: Emily Holmstorm, Wilbur Nelson, Clarence Vandever and Ross Chadd.. Third row: Eddie Lindberg, Edith Aspegren, Lorine Erickson, Ruby Aspegren, Esther Nelson, Carl Westin, Fourth Row: Lloyd Aspegren, Leonard Chadd, Bert Conley and Ella Aspegren. Front row: Russell Nelson, Carl Larson, Charles Holmstrom and Lloyd Lindberg.



During the winter of 1917-18, Miss Sena Cooper-Tingstrom was the teacher and in the back row are: Russell Neson,, Ray Reed and Carl Erickson. Second from the back row: Lloyd Lindberg, Rex Farrell, Oren Reed, Frances Westin, Ella Farrell, Oren Reed, Frances Westin, Ella Aspegren, Opal McKay, Leone Beam, Marie McKay. In the fron row are: Howard Vandever, Hugo

Erickson, DeWayne Lindberg, Florence Nelson, Elmer Johnson, Roland Beam, Eldred Lindberg and Chester Reed.

When Miss Zula Riter taught here in 1900-1901, we have an old Souvenir listing the board members Walter Westin, clerk; Fred Yerian, treasurer; and H.K. Hoyt, director. The pupils were: Ethel, Eldon, and Darrell Standley; Lycy, Hattie, Mary, Thomas and Roy Whitley; Jessie, DeWitt, Johnnie, Edith and Gertrude Blaylock; Howard and Edith Vincent; Myrtle Swearingen, Jay Yerian, Ethel Ball, Gretta, Floy, Lewis and Walter Collins.

#### DISTRICT 50 - BOWLING GREEN

On November 11, 1871 a meeting was held to organize District 50, Bowling Green. The site is the NE corner of Section 30 in Belleville Township.



Its boundaries included most of Sections 19,20, all of 29, 30, 32, and most of 31.

The following officers were elected: B.F. Blankenship, director; J.B. Bowling, clerk; Thomas West, treasurer. The same officers were reelected March 28, 1872

Between 1903-1914 these teachers taught seven-month terms of school: Nellie Lyon, Adda Gile, Vera P Strong, Monnice Waite, Carrie Weaver, S.V. Westbeck, Florence McGlashan, Margie Carpenter, Lillie Dyer and C.M. Leggitt. The number of pupils per teacher ranged from 17 to 34.

From 1924 to 1938 Jesse Barnhart, Dora Fritzinger, Wayne Smith, Frank O. Cooper, Miss Ida Smith, Sadie H. Robison, Louise Akers, Marjorie Douglas, Harry B. Smith and Marion Kelly taught Bowling Green.

In 1936 T.J. Morehead was paid \$26.80 for shingling and repairs. In 1938 at the Annual Meeting it was voted to purchase maps, renew insurance and to clean the buildings and well. In 1937 Clarence Blanchard painted the schoolhouse interior for \$25.00.

A piano was purchased during the school year 1938-39. Five Reading Circle books were bought for \$6.14. Sylvia Donaldson, Ruth M. Owens, Elmer Zavodsky, Garnett Davidson and Orel Davidson, who was the last teacher, served the school as teachers from 1948-60.

Pupils were transported to Belleville Center, District 22, in 1961-62.

"This is to certify that the following school districts - 22 Belleville Center, 50 Bowling Green, and 60 Grace Hill,

County of Republic, - are declared disorganized and in place thereof a new district organized and titled as District No. Con. 22. Belleville Center, County of Republic." Dated this 23rd day of May 1962.

W. J. Matthias Co. Supt.

The last school board was Thomas Sanford, director; Donald Wilber, treasurer; and Thressa Kelly, clerk.



Thressa Kelly taught Bowling Green School for several years. After her own house burned, she had this schoolhouse moved to her home. This picture shows the plate over her door which reads "Bowling Green School, District 50". The picture below taken in May 1969 shows the east side. (Pictures courtesy of her sister Mrs. Allen Logan) She lived here until she was injured in a car wreck. This building still stands where it served as a residence for Mrs. Kelly on the land owned by her daughter Faye, Mrs. John Novak. (Picture at the beginning of this report by courtesy of Mrs. Novak).

#### DIST. 51—BATES SCHOOL LATER, CON. 228

Bates School, District 51 was built at the north center of the NE ¼ of section 14 in Richland Township on an acre





of land. It was deeded as two separate half acres. A half acre each from James S. Bates and J. R. Crokall.

James S. Bates received his patent July 30, 1875. It was for the E½ of the NE¼. In 1882 when he sold the land the deed stated allowing half an acre for the purpose of a school. There was no location there-on that this deed mentioned.

J. R. Crokall received his patent on June 30, 1876. It was for the NW¼ of the NE¼. The 40 acres were bought in 1889 by Alpha Kellam but others had also owned the land before him. The deed stated 39½ acres with a half an acre deeded to school district 51 for a school site. But no definite location is stated.

With the Homestead Law requiring five years of living on the land to claim it, this would place these two as settling here in 1870 and 1871. Records show that Bates sold his land in 1882. We think that the school had been built by then. So without records or knowledge when this school was built, we can only assume. It appears that the school was built between 1875 and 1882.

It is believed the land was given to the school district 51 while both James S. Bates and J. R. Crokall still owned the land. The story is told that the owners each wanted the school built on their own land. So it was decided that the half an acre from each place be together and to the north along the road. Then to build the school on the line in this acre. It is not certain how the name of Bates was chosen, but we assume it was agreed. Thus Bates School No. 51 got its name and was started. The school today stands on the line, as agreed, where the school was first built.

Records and the history of the first years of Bates School are very vague. Little is known or remembered before 1900. That year we do find that Alpha Kellam was elected director on July 26; W. C. McCracken was appointed clerk on August 15. Each of these men held his office for one year. Also, that year Vena Pointer was the teacher for that term for a salary of \$35.00 per month. The school term and classes started that year on September 3rd.

Again we find records scarce until 1905. In that year the teacher was Jennie Kelley. The school had a seven month term, from September 4 to March 30. The pupils of the 1905-06 term were,

Henry McCracken

Thaddeaus McCracken	Lucy McCracken
Fenton Greenwood	Mary Kalivoda
Joseph Kalivoda	Della McCracken
Frank Hess	May McCracken
Pete Hess	Julie Teeter
Claud Smith	Lizzie McCracken
Chester Cosand	Ary McCracken
Jay Flemming	Helen Bales
May Dean	Charlie Vich
Anna Dean	Nellie Smith
Pearl Dean	Barbara Peeples
Iva Dorman	Daisy Peeples
Grace Dorman	Ira Mason
Myrtle Dorman	Robert Peeples
Rosa Hess	

Visitors to the school in the 1905-06 term were, L. W. Nutter, Supt. Belleville; W. S. Bales, Cuba; Gertie Damitz, Washington.

For the year of 1906-07 they were:

Sept. 26-1906	G. S. Cosand	Cuba
	H. W. Shindler	Marysville
	J. T. King	Washington
	J. H. Shindler	Marysville
Oct. 18 - 1906	L. W. Nutter, Co. Supt.	Belleville, Ks.
	Millie Williamson	Haddam, Kans.
Dec. 17 - 1906	Mabel England	Wayne, Kans.
Jan. 3 - 1907	Matilda Schneberger	Cuba, Kans.
Jan. 11 - 1907	Flossie Dorman	Cuba, Kans.

Teachers at the Bates School the following few years were,

1905-06	Jennie Kelley
1906-07	Bernie Cosand
1907-08	Viva Hoffman
1908-09	Viva Hoffman
1909-10	J. Shellhammer
1910-11	Goldie Miller
1911-12	Ruth McDonald
1912-13	Elsie Arbutnot
1913-14	Roy Leggitt



This group picture at Bates School in 1914 shows 31 pupils. We have the following names for only 23 of them: Leanora Zacek, Olive Shulda, Ilah Haworth, Olive McCracken, Mary Chizek, Edd Winbinger, Lloyd Johnson, Blanch Spichal, Lulu Spichal, Minnie Nylund, Edd Zacek, Frank Winbinger, Leon Winbinger, Ernie Shulda, Creston Haworth, Florence Martin, Harold





Haworth, Lottie Shulda, Flossie Martin, Paul McCracken, Nellie Nylund, Ethel Dorman and Cecil McCracken. The teacher was Hazel Livingston in 1914.



The following year Ben Barrett was the teacher and the girls who were members of the basket ball team were: Minnie Hyland, Nellie Hyland, Florence Martin, Flossie Martin, Hazel McCracken, Rose Martin, Hazel McCracken, Rose Martin and Grace Dorman. These pictures were shared by Nellie Taylor.

Bates school continued to serve the area as School District 51 thru the spring of 1943. At that time Elizabeth McCracken was the teacher. That was the spring that Meter No. 31 was closed. The school then united with Bates. So in the fall, on September 10, 1943, school opened at Bates with Marvel Rhine as the teacher. But from that date on it was known as Consolidated District 228. Meter School had been located about two and a half miles south of Bates.

Some of the Bates Con. 228 teachers beside Miss Rhine were, 1950-51, Winifred C. Zenger; 1957-60 Marie Klima.

In the spring of 1961 Bates Con. 228 was closed. The last school term was from Sept. 25, 1960 to April 28, 1961. The teacher that last term was Mr. Wesley Vytlačil. The pupils of that last term of 1960-61 were:

Peggy Sue Hadachek	Diane Ruth Chizek
Dorothy May Plevka	Barbara Ann Plevka
Nicholas Lee Zinger	Gaylin Dale Shimek
Donald Eugene Plevka	Sheril Kay Rhine
Merle Dean Hadachek	Jeannie Eileen Chizek
Larry Gene Hadachek	Angela Beth Shimek

In the fall of 1961 these pupils went to District 111 in Cuba.

Today, Bates School still stands. It is on the same location that it was built on, at the middle of the line. Only

now, it is used as a granary on the farm and no longer a school. It and the land are owned by Mrs. Emma Hadachek. The land is farmed by her son Eugene C. Hadachek.

Researched and written by,  
E. F. Stepanek

#### DISTRICT 52 WASHINGTON SCHOOL

Washington School District 52 was located in Washington Township in E $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 15, Sec. 14, Sec. 13, Sec. 24, Sec. 23 E $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 22 NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 26 N $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 25, in township 1, south range 4, west of the 6th Meridian.

Washington School was named for the township of Washington. The land for the school building was loaned to the district by A. E. Taylor. For the frame building which was the one and only building as far as we can learn as many of the records of the early days have been lost or destroyed. In the giving or the loaning of the land for the school building Mr. Taylor did this with the understanding that if and when school was no longer held here that the land was to be given to the owner of the land on whose property the school grounds existed.

Norman Stafford later owned the land and it now belongs to Mr. Frye of Byron.

Washington Township was organized on July 2, 1872 and as far as we can tell the school building was probably erected a few years later. We do not have these records. The earliest records we have were of 1895 and then only of the board members who were, W. H. Mead, Albert Mitchell, and O. A. A. Gardner. We could not find a record of the teacher at this time. The earliest date of the teacher and pupils were in about 1897 or 1898 when Miss Elizabeth Glenn taught Washington School with an enrollment of 25. Miss Glenn later became a missionary to Japan and spent many years there teaching and serving.



This picture is of Miss Glenn, Washington School, and the 25 pupils in about 1889. There are: back row, left to right: Ellard Sanford, Hulda Mahan, Fred Stafford, Earl Mitchell, Floyd Stafford, Edith Jones, Agnes Jones, the teacher Lizzie Glen, and Vivian Wells.

Middle row: Clara Stafford, Mabel Mitchell, Sarah Stafford, Lydia Mahan, Belle Wells, Nora Sanford, Eva

Sanford, Grace Morehead, Edith Wells, Chella Milner.

Lower row: Wylie Gardner, Verner Mitchell, Bill Stafford, Frank Wells, Iva Mitchell and Lillie Jones.

This picture was given for our use by Mrs. Bernice Roe of Belleville, Kansas. Mrs. Roe lived in No. 52 when she was a girl and went to school there. Mrs. Roe was the former Bernice Wells. Miss Wells taught school in Republic county at one time. The next records show that Edward Stafford taught in 1904-1905 for 8 months at \$40 a month, no record of number of students. W. H. Mead, G. Milner and N. E. Stafford were the board members.

In 1905-1906 Miss Ruth Forestall taught for 8 months at \$45 a month. In 1907-1908 Irene Eddy taught for 8 months for \$50 a month and G. R. Meade, W. H. Price, and N. E. Stafford were the board members.

In 1908-1909 Elsie Morehead taught for 8 months for \$48 a month. 1909-1910 Helen D. McCulloch was the teacher. She taught for 8 months for \$55 a month. 1912 Kate McGlashan taught 8 months for \$55 a month. Other teachers at later dates were Charles Rundus, Agnes Glenn (she also became a missionary to Japan), Albina Evans, and May Ide Johnson.

Washington School building was also used for Sunday School and Church services for many, many years.

The years passed, many pupils and teachers came and went until in 1940-1941 Mrs. Sybil (Davidson) Rahe taught an 8 month term for \$60 a month. The last year that school was held was for the term 1941-1942 when Miss Grace Mosier (Morehead) was the teacher. She taught for 8 months for \$55 a month. The board members were: C. Rahe, G. Kettelhut and R. Harms. The students were: Willis Kettelhut, Gary Larkins, Leora Kettelhut, Verla Kettelhut and Phyllis Morehead.

The pupils were sent to other districts the next term and thereafter until in 1951 at a meeting called for the district on May 10, 1951 to vote on the annexation of District 52 to districts 70, 97, 79 and to build a new school building to be named Washington Central 79 and it was to be built in a new location more centrally located for the five districts involved. The annexation was completed on July 1, 1951. Mrs. Thressa Kelly was the County Superintendent who helped with the transaction.

The Washington School district held a public auction on December 21, 1951 and sold the building and all the equipment. The school house and contents were sold to 79 for \$275, toilets, for \$10, merry-go-round for \$10, and the school land for \$70.

Howard Mitchell bought the coal and coal house for \$50, W. P. Stafford the play ground equipment for \$25, and S. W. Milner \$10 for a toilet and block. W. P. Stafford later bought the school building from 79 and moved it to his farm where it was used for many years as a storage building and to store grain. The school building is probably still standing on the farm once owned by W. P. Stafford and his family.

#### DISTRICT 53—ROUND GROVE SCHOOL

We found that Round Grove School was listed in the abstract of the quarter section known as the "Edson Place" owned now by Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hawel, two miles east and three south of Narka. The early abstract shows that two acres were purchased for \$8 and signed by Geo. T. Anthony. The school was moved during the latter part of the 1880's according to older residents. This new location,



a mile north of the old school, is still the present location. Picture is courtesy of Mrs. Eliza Harroun who taught there in 1910-11.

When the old plot was sold March 3, 1890, these were the Board members: A. E. Frame, Meredith Morris and John Hromas. The Round Grove Church Association purchased this plot for \$25 and built their church on the schoolhouse foundation. The lease for the present location was filed with the Register of Deeds on August 17, 1891 and signed by the above board members.



These are the family names found in this picture of 1890-1895, but not identified: Cerny, Kvasnicka, Novak, Hancock, Morris, Klima, Frame and others we are not able to name. Courtesy of Vesta Kvasnicka.

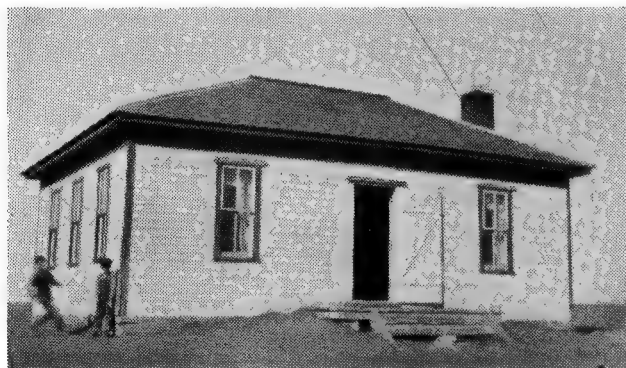


About 1912-13, while W. M. Slopansky was County Superintendent, Bertha Bentley was the teacher at Round

Grove. The picture is of the old building. The pupils were: Kneeling, first row, left to right, Libbie Cerny, Gertrude Morgan, Emma Vocasek, Marye Krshka, Millie Cerny, Etha Slough, Sam Cook. Second row: Paul Edwards, Sunshine Adams, Tillie Vocasek, Albert Cook, William (Bill) Adams. Third row: Stanley Vocasek, Frank Kramel, Jess Edwards, teacher Bertha Bentley, Mollie Cerny, George Edwards and Louis Cerny. Back row: Grace Edwards, Charles Novak, Viola Kramel, Bill Cook, Eudora Cook, Leroy Slough and County Superintendent W. M. Slopansky. Courtesy of Evan Kvasnicka.

The early school records of the clerks were found very interesting to those who were fortunate enough to see them—some of them were written in Czech. Facts recorded show that the teacher sometimes was paid in wood.

Other facts concerning the district reveal that the Meredith Morris family was the largest family to live in the district - they had 18 children. The Frank Salisbury family had 10 children graduating from the eighth grade, which is the record for the largest number of graduates in one family.



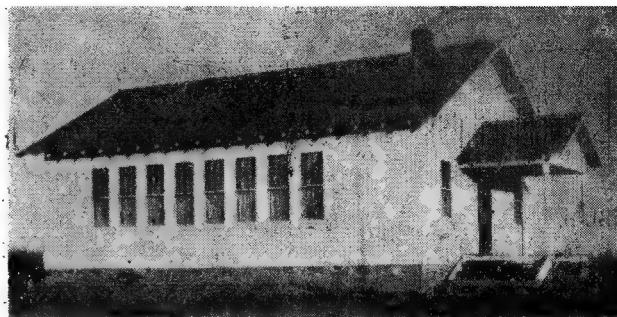
Tony Cerny of Narka is one old-timer who can recall the school back in 1899-1900 when he attended. He says the building then was a 19 by 24 foot structure. Later, it was remodeled into a square building with windows on three sides. The present building was built in 1934 and wired for electricity in 1950.

Some of the old-timers still living in Narka who attended this school include Mr. and Mrs. John Kvasnicka, Frank Kvasnicka, Joe Bouska, Adolph Shara, Mrs. Elsie Klima, Ed and Tony Novak and Tony Cerny.

Much of this information was collected by Mrs. Laura Chaloupka Vytlacil to present at the First Round Grove Homecoming in 1952 in the Denton Memorial Hall at Narka. A basket dinner was enjoyed at noon.

Due to the loss of some of the record books we can name only 30 teachers who taught Round Grove School. The only time the school was closed was for three semesters in 1947-48 when they were unable to secure a teacher. This list of teachers was taken from school registers - none could be found earlier than 1900 and a few later registers are also missing.

1. Miss McCrea
2. Blanche McDonald
3. Nellie Nelson
4. Elsie Craig
5. Dora Edwards Baker 1900-01
6. Verna Summers 1906



**BIG DAY FOR LITTLE SCHOOL** — Round Grove school southeast of Narka, one of the educational institutions started by the pioneer Bohemians of the Narka area, will round up its alumni for Homecoming Day May 31 at Denton Hall in Narka. (Daily News Photo)

- |                                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 7. Evelyn Lasey                  | 1907               |
| 8. Alma L. Wailes                | 1908               |
| 9. Martha Oliver                 | 1909               |
| 10. Eliza Wolff                  | 1910-11            |
| 11. Helen Anderson               | 1911-12            |
| 12. Bertha Bentley-Cossaart      | 1912-16 four years |
| 13. Inez Wills Morten            | 1916-17            |
| 14. Chester Cosand started Sept. | 1917               |
| 15. Ernest Bingham finished      | 1917-18            |
| 16. Minnie Chadd                 | 1918-19            |

Pupils of Minnie Chadd 1918-19: Chas. Hiatt, Cecil Kvasnicka, Willie Edwards, Neva Cook, John Edwards, Louis Likens, Paul Edwards, Emma Vocasek, Margaret Feil, Gerald Kvasnicka, Cleo Kvasnicka, Edna Wilkinson, Libbie Cerny, Albert Cook, George Edwards, Mary Krshka, La Brown Koons, Tillie Vocasek, Bernice Wilkinson, Sam Cook.

- |                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 17. Pansy Peters Waltman       | 1919-20            |
| 18. Pauline Shara Hardenburger | 1920-21            |
| 19. Mollie Cerny               | 1920-22            |
| 20. Charlie Thomas             | 1922-24 two years  |
| 21. Opal Ward Green            | 1924-25            |
| 22. Mabel Fickel               | 1925-26            |
| 23. Irving Peterson            | 1926-30 four years |
| 24. Alden Longwell             | 1930-31            |
| 25. Carmen Chandler            | 1931-32            |
| 26. Fern Larabee-Cross         | 1933-34            |
| 27. Lucile Spring Hoffman      | 1934-35            |
| 28. Chas. Byrd                 | 1935-37 two years  |

Pupils of Chas. Byrd 1935-36: Wanda Chaloupka, Bohman Kunc, Betty Garoutte, Marvin Salisbury, Kenneth Kvasnicka, Virginia Salisbury, Robert Salisbury, Junior Garette, Helen Chaloupka, Nora Mae Garoutte, Lottie Kunc, Rosa Garoutte, Marjorie Kvasnicka, Yula Salisbury, Glen Chaloupka.

- |                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 29. Mary Davis Cerny  | 1937-39 two years |
| 30. Viola Allen Hiatt | 1939-40           |

Pupils of Mary Davis 1939-40: Ray Kvasnicka, Mary Salisbury, Bennie Holloway, Alpha Salisbury, Bohman Kunc, Marvin Salisbury, Kenneth Kvasnicka, Virginia Salisbury and Robert Salisbury.

#### FREEDOM SCHOOL DISTRICT 54

Freedom township was organized on July 7, 1871 and was christened 'Freedom' by William Hughes. Freedom district 54 included sections 9 and 16 W $\frac{1}{2}$  of 10 and 15 SW $\frac{1}{4}$  3 SE $\frac{1}{4}$  and S $\frac{1}{2}$  of 4 and E $\frac{1}{2}$  of 8 and 17 Township 2 Range 3



west.

On March 28, 1872 the following persons were elected and qualified as officers of the district, William Hughes as director, G. O. Savage as clerk, and Ann E. Johnson as Treasurer.

March 1, 1873, "I have this day attached the west  $\frac{1}{2}$  of section 5, 8 and 17 T. 2 R. 3 to the district." Signed A. D. Marble Co. Superintendent.

The first school house was located in the northeast corner of section 16 and was taught by Mrs. Ella Lowell Griffin in 1872, with an enrollment of 22 pupils. Some of these were, Emma, Byron, Lydia, and John Savage, Minnie, and Florence Doty, Clara, Mary, Fred, Frank, Ella, and Hank Johnson, and Ella Templeton. There were others but we could not find the record.

The first court house record of the district school house was on June 1, 1876 located in the NE  $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 17. The patrons had decided to center the school house in the district and it was moved one mile west. It could not be put in the northwest corner of section 16 as the Washburn farm buildings were in that corner so they built it across the road west in section 17. It was a stone building and Mr. Frank Johnston recalls that he was the first to drive a wagon into the district and helped to haul the stone for the school house. Mr. Johnston, who had moved to San Diego, Cal. in 1884, was present for Freedom's 4th homecoming on Oct. 15, 1937 and told many interesting facts about the district, and this was one of them. His wife, the former Ella Clark taught Freedom in 1882.

Some of the early teachers in the district beside Mrs. Griffin were, Mrs. Lou Arbuthnot, in 1873-1874 for two and one-half months, Miss Ella Peck in 1875, Albert Odell in 1876, Miss Nettie Clark in 1878, 3 spring months and 3 fall months, Eliza Couchman in 1880, six months for \$35 a month, Mrs. Stella Moree Armstrong in 1889 and 1894, Minnie Stubblefield, 1890, enrollment 52, 8 months of school total salary \$250. Fred Collins in 1892, enrollment 52, 8 months of school total salary \$250. Fred Collins in 1892, 9 mo. for \$415.60, enrollment 55. Agnes Glenn in 1896, Annie Stubblefield in 1900, and many, many more that space does not permit.

In 1887 Miss Nellie Wilkes was the teacher and the following were her pupils, Laura, Lula, Ella, Sadie, and Maggie Thompson, Ida and Myrtle Helwick, George, John and Bessie Kavanaugh, Henry, Laura, and Ollie Ullom, Polly and Robert Mahale, Clara, Ira, Fred, and Maude Walker, John, Henry, Joe, Frank and Tony Kerstine, Rollie, Cora, and Icy Washburn, Etta, Alice, Stella and Frank Moree, Pearl and Ruby Savage, Bertha Collins, Charley and Anna Carey, Ira Corey, Lily and Arthur Russel and Frank Jehlik.

In 1880 a small frame building replaced the stone structure and Mrs. Eliza Couchman was the first teacher in the new building. She taught for six months for \$35 a month. In 1881 Miss Lou Neel was the teacher, she taught for \$20 a month for a term of twelve weeks, beginning on April 18, and again in the fall for a term of twelve weeks beginning on Sept. 5, for \$22 per month.

In 1905 a larger building was built at the same location and was used until 1920. Mrs. Johanna Hurley (Sheridan) was the last teacher in the old building. She taught for eight months with an enrollment of 28 pupils: Students were Francis, Roy, Earl, and Adabelle Carey, Eunice, Dorothy, Bernice, Marguerite, and Ira Corey, Ivy, Charles, and Glenn Craft, Elizabeth Heyka, Walter and

Raymond Kerstein, Josephine and Agnes Konovalske, William and Helen Levendofsky.



What a joy it was for Ada M. Burandt to be the first teacher in the new Freedom School building in 1905-06! Ed Kipper, C. M. Carey, and A. L. Yowell were the board members and L. W. Nutter the Co. Supt. With these 37 students, it is easy to see the need for the larger school: Otis Collins, Hazel Yowell, Clara Levendofsky, John Kavanaugh, Anna Rosiska, Dora Levendovsky, Jessie Coykendall, Charlie Shipp, Glen Walker, Starl Tallent, Josie Levendofsky, Rosa Levendofsky, Frank Heyka, Charlie Tallent, Havana Tallent, Fred Carey, Joe Heyka, Henry Yowell, Isa Nesmith, Anna Levendofsky, Frank Levendofsky, Verner Kavanaugh, Clara Kerstein, Anna Shymanskie, Laona Carey, Lloyd Yowell, Mary Heyka, Josie Kerstein, Eva Kipper, Julia Shymanskie, Martha Heyka, Eddie Kerstein, Helen Levendovsky, Opal Coykendall, Frank Shymanskie and Willie Rost.

This picture was taken in 1911, teacher Mrs. Vera Strong (Gant) taught for 7 months for \$55, enrollment 44.





The pupils were: Charles Shipp, Marguerite Corey, Leola, Leonard, and Eva Kipper, and Walter K. Anes, and Josie Konovalske, Cleo Hoagland, Dora, Josie, Rosie, Helen, Katie and Martha Levendofsky, Glen and Dean Walker, Leona, Fred, Bessie, Clifford, and Adabelle Carey. (Bessie Carey Tallent attended Freedom school through all the grades and in 1929-1930 and 1930-1931 taught here.) Hazel, Lloyd, Henry, Lenora and Louise Yowell, Josephine, Rosie, and Eddie Kerstein, Hurchel, Edith, Alma and Roscoe Critchlow, Victoria, Rosie, and Willie Rost, Bessie, Minnie Wilkes, Edyth Collins, Mary Tarkowske and Martha, Joe and Frank Heyka.

Nellie and Ray Packer, Sarah and Mildred Washburn, Harold Walker, Curtis and Gladys Wilkes, Freda Tallent and Andrew Tarkowske.



A new structure was erected in 1920. It was thirty feet by thirty feet with a full basement and furnace. The building had huge windows in the north side. Walter Kipper was the first teacher in the new building. He taught for an eight month term for a salary of \$100 a month. (The district sold the old building for \$200.) Mr. Kipper had an enrollment of twenty-six. The Coreys had moved, Josephine and Agnes Konovalske and Nellie Packer had graduated the year before, but five new pupils enrolled. Three beginners, Lila Washburn, Nelson Craft and Dorothy Moree, also Frank Kelly and Paul Peduck enrolled from another district.

The first homecoming in the district was held on Oct. 12, 1934 with open house, a bountiful basket supper, a lively program, including the school history read by Stella Moree Armstrong, a former teacher, and remarks from other teachers and pupils present, about 150 attended. Honor was given to Mrs. Eliza Couchman who was the oldest teacher present and came the farthest distance to attend the homecoming.

The homecoming song, composed by Miss Zellah Mosher (Berggren), was sung and used in each succeeding homecoming. Mrs. Berggren taught at Freedom from the fall of 1934 to the spring of 1938, a total of four terms.

#### FREEDOM SCHOOL

##### I.

Now for a song to Freedom School  
And sing it o'er and o'er,  
We'll join and praise her once again  
We love her as of yore;  
So here's to Dear Old Freedom School  
All loyal maids and men,

Come join our song and praise prolong  
Of Dear Old Freedom School.

##### II.

What though the tide of years may roll  
And drift us far apart,  
For Freedom school still there'll be  
A place in every heart;  
In Olden Days we sang thy praise  
We'll sing it as of yore  
In memory we still shall be  
At District Fifty-four.

"Auld Lang Syne"

Zellah Mosher, Oct. 9, 1936

At the second homecoming, held on Oct. 11, 1935, Freedom's first teacher, Mrs. Ella Lowell Griffin, was present and was present for the third homecoming, also, on Oct. 9, 1936, when she and some of her former pupils conducted a farcical school. She was the teacher and the pupils who put on the program were: Ella Thompson Close, Ira Walker, Frank Jellik, Ethel Palmer, Elsie Collins Kerstein, Fred Collins, Stella Moree Armstrong, Ella McBride, who was dressed in an old-fashioned dress and bonnet from the gay-nineties, and portrayed the part of the County Superintendent. Clara Kerstein Collins, Nora Collins, Frank Moree, Laura Thompson Kipper, Anna Black Carey, and Myrtle Thompson Miles. Mrs. Miles composed and sang the following song for her part of the program.

#### Freedom's Homecoming Date

(TUNE OF 'WHEN YOU AND I WERE YOUNG, MAGGIE')

##### 1.

I wandered today out to Freedom  
They had a Homecoming Day  
Oh my, but the crowd that was there, teacher  
They came from far, far away.  
The dinner was served in the basement  
And everyone was hungry and gay.  
Oh my, we are all very anxious  
For Freedom's next Homecoming Day.

##### 2.

The crowd in the basement was busy,  
The way we were rushing around  
Such shaking of hands and Hello-ing  
I know that I lost twenty pounds.  
The table was loaded with chicken  
And no one even brought a neck,  
The cakes and the pies were delicious  
It did not take them long to be wrecked.

##### 3.

Our Homecoming Day is nearly over,  
Our friends and pupils must part.  
We all hope to meet next October  
If we don't it will break our hearts.  
Dear teachers, classmates, and scholars  
We want you to come back next year.  
I know we are all very happy  
For our friendly gathering so dear.

Mrs. Myrtle McKee (Washburn) taught Freedom in 1903 for \$35 a month, enrollment 27, her daughter, Mrs. Sarah Washburn (Milner, Proft) taught here in 1932 for \$70 a month an enrollment of 9.

But time marches on and the enrollment became less, higher teacher's wages, and more and more demands made by the state until finally the school was closed for the 1958-1959 term. The last teacher to teach Freedom school was Mr. William N. Goldsmith for the 1957-1958 term, the pupils were: Jean, Joan, and James Levendofsky, Brian and Veleita Brzon, Carol and Judy Sterba, and Steven Zukowske, the board members were: Mr. Loren Brzon, Mrs. Harvey Shulda, and Mr. Lawrence Levendofsky.

On December 14, 1959 it was voted by the district to transfer a portion of the Freedom territory to district 43, Spring Hill, which included the Zukowske and Sterba farms, therefore their children went to Spring Hill for the 1958-1959 term and thereafter until district 43 was unified with Belleville 227 and Belleville was the attendance center for that portion of the county. The Levendofsky, Brzon and Shulda children went to Republic 63 as this was closer for them and Republic Schools sent buses for transportation. On April 22, 1960 an order of disorganization and annexation of a portion of Freedom 54 to Republic 63 and 14 (the high school) was signed by county superintendent Mrs. Thressa Kelly.

The building was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Loren Brzon in August, 1961 for \$400 and was used in enlarging their country home, leaving the hallway as it was. The plot of ground where the school stood for many years has been returned to farm land, with hardly a reminder of happy school days at Freedom.

Prepared by Muriel Reed Tallent. Pictures from Bessie Tallent. Some material from Viola Shulda, Sarah Proft.

#### DISTRICT 55—PLEASANT VIEW

Pleasant View School Dist. 55 is located in the NW corner of Section 36 of Liberty Township. It is six miles north and one east of Belleville.

The first meeting was held on April 10, 1872 to organize a school. The following officers were elected: Thomas Benson, director; G. A. Hovey, clerk; and O. P. Phillips, treasurer.

On a previous meeting dated Jan. 30, 1872 there were these officers elected: G. A. Hovey, director; O. P. Phillips, clerk; and M. Churchill, treasurer. Apparently this was a preliminary meeting as the organization seems to be April 10th of that year.

Mrs. Mary Skucius shared with us this Souvenir dated



1907 when Mayme Jeffries taught Dist. 55. Eighth grade were Fred Wagon, Teresa O'Neal and David Ball. Seventh Grade were Joseph Strunc, Rudolph Strunc, Mae Wagon, Pearl Wagon, Ada O'Neal, Harris Nicholson and John Veroda. (No sixth grade) Fifth grade were Vern Wagon, Leslie Thorp, Elmer Boyer, Frances O'Neal, Geo. Weaver and Arthur Hallowell, Fourth grade were Nettie Cozine, Clara Wagon, Ralph Weaver and Ernest Lyons. Third grade were Mary Strunc, Morris Currier, Bert Weaver, Clarence Currier, Iva Thorp, Mabel Hallowell and Ruth Nicholson. Second grade were Jay Baldwin, Merle Dooley, Nellie Wagon, Marion Lyons and Guy Nicholson. First grade were Stella Thorp, Asa Currier and Harlen Cozine.



Mrs. Mary Skucius also loaned the picture of the graduation class at District 55 in 1913 which was taken in the Reed home. There were fourteen graduates, so we believe that commencement exercises were held in this school for four or five districts close-by. This was the usual practice in 1913. They are at the top: Eunice Ireland, Harold Wilkes, Mary Strunc, Frank Boyce and Mable Hallowell. Center row: Eula Swenson, Lois Williams, D. G. (Guy) Whitney, Ethel Larkins and Hazel Stutzman. Bottom row: Alfred Mosier, Ethel Childs, Merle Whitney and Clara Randall.

Mrs. Skucius shared this picture also, when Mary



herself taught Pleasant View in 1919. There were 26 children from the following families: Mitchell, Rundus, Cozine O'Neal, Dooley, Ball, Derowitsch, VanWinkle and Whitney.

School Dist. 55 seems to have had school nearly continuously down through the years. Miss Esther Milner taught several years. It was disorganized and its territory annexed to form a new district with 8, 43 and 66, on February 26, 1967, when W. J. Matthias was County Superintendent. This was 95 years after its organization.

#### DISTRICT 56—LIBERTY CENTER

W. Lancaster, County Superintendent of Public Instruction, in 1872 sent a letter to D. W. Cole, a voter in School Dist. No. 56, saying that he had formed a school district to be known as School Dist. 56, beginning at the NE corner of Sec. 15, west to the NW corner of Sec. 16, south to the SW corner of the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 28, east to the SE corner of the NE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 27, thence north to the place of beginning. Five notices were to be posted at least ten days prior to the meeting the 3rd day of February, 1872.

The first district meeting was in the home of Charles Barrington on Feb. 3, 1872 with John C. Vance presiding and Ezra D. Brizby secretary pro tem. Charles Barrington was elected director, Delos W. Cole clerk, and Ezra D. Brizby treasurer. The site decided upon for the schoolhouse was the NE corner of SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 21 in Liberty Township.

The first annual meeting was at the home of Charles Barrington on the 28th day of March, 1872. Charles Barrington was elected director, Ezra D. Brizby treasurer, and John Jones clerk. It was voted to erect a log schoolhouse on the above described site and have three months of summer school taught by a woman.

Miss Jane Tyler taught this first term of school beginning June 3rd, 1872, for a three-month term with this understanding, "to pay said teacher the sum of \$30 as soon as paid into the treasury". The contract was signed two days after she had started to teach school! Miss Tyler did not receive her pay until some time after the meeting on December 13, 1872 at which time a tuition of \$1.50 (probably subscription) was assessed each scholar that attended the summer school. E. D. Brizbee was appointed to "collect said tuition and pay it to the teacher, Jane Tyler. (She must have had 20 scholars!)"

The second teacher, Miss Alma Burge, taught a summer term beginning July 21, 1873, consisting of one month and eleven days, for \$22.75. She had no teacher's certificate. It was difficult for teachers to find a place to take exams from someone qualified to give them.

Most teachers in the past carefully cultivated a "non-committal" attitude when it came to politics. However, Miss Stella Moree (so it has been recorded) was a Republican and made no qualms about it! She taught "the pupils how to peck a hole in eggs and add something to paddle them and throw at the candidates for office she didn't like. Democrat families were not pleased". So we must observe that the political egg-throwing of recent years was not the first time it had been done - it was taught nearly a century ago!

In December 1873 at a special meeting of the voters of Dist. 56 the matter of erecting a schoolhouse to replace the log school was considered. It was decided to locate the

new schoolhouse eighty rods north of the present site on the NE corner of Sec. 21 on John Brown's claim. This was the center of Liberty Township and is perhaps when it got its name. Brown was to give a legal deed to one acre. Bonds were voted for \$650 to be sold for not less than .90 on the dollar.

The voters, after some discussion, concluded they would sell the old log school and apply the money on the purchase of a stove for the new schoolhouse. The amount of the sale was to be paid by the first day of October, 1874.

In the clerk's record of proceedings March 28, 1874, bonds for \$600 were issued to be forwarded to Topeka by I. O. Savage and sold for not less than .90 on the dollar. They sold in May 1874 for that amount, which amount with the interest already accrued was \$550 less .75 for blank bonds, and .75 for filling out the bonds, and coupons and .75 for recording. The bonds would come due in four years for \$100, the second in seven years, and the last in ten years.

In May, 1874 "Directors proceeded to sell out the job of building the new schoolhouse - Mr. Langworthy making the lowest bid took the job at (\$75), house to be finished by the 15th of August, 1874".

On October 1, 1874 James Vance had the highest bid of \$16.80 for the old schoolhouse, according to the clerk's record.

The new schoolhouse faithfully served the Liberty Center Community for many more years. Emma Thompson taught four years of 3-month summer terms, at \$15-\$18 per mo. The new district was not able to have more than the three-month terms as these were hard years. Mary Thompson taught in 1877 for \$23 per month, then Ada Megrada, Irene Lakin, Lorinda Anderson, E. F. Carpenter (in 1879 he got \$30), Eliza Haven, Emmitt Keith, Alma Thompson, Flora Graves, Rhoda Turner, S. L. Alderman, and E. May Alexander. So by 1887 there had been 12 lady teachers, 3 men teachers, with only 57 mos. of school taught in the first 15 years.

Mrs. Olive Westfall taught in 1901-02 with these pupils: Roy Coons, Clarence Coons, Jay Davis, Frank Coons, Georgia Hulbert, Harry Hunt, Frances Richards, Mable Larkins, May Davis, Elsie Richards, Inez Richards, Archie Richards, Willie Nesmith, Eddie Richards, Clarence Nesmith, Joe Hunt, Harry Coons, Alice Davis, Bessie Hulbert, Alma Hulbert, Amy Davis, Madge Hunt and Maggie Davis.

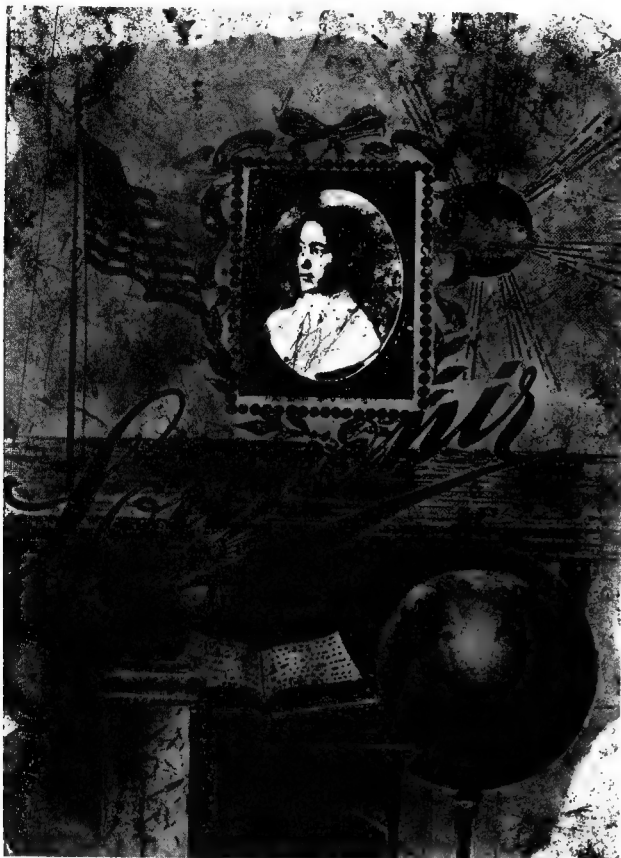
The Board members were: J. Coons director, G. G. Hulbert clerk, and A. Richards treasurer.

**Irene Childs Keeling has contributed much help with**





this story. Mrs. Lottie Hunt of Belcourt Apartments in Belleville has contributed the two souvenirs. One for 1913 has Irene's name when she was second grade and her teacher was Mae E. Davis.



On the front of most of the old souvenirs was the picture of the teacher, this is Mrs. Olive E. Westfall.

Mrs. Keeling began school in the old white frame school, 1911, and Miss Davis was teaching 27 pupils while the new school was being constructed beside it. How hard it must have been to keep their minds on studies with this cement block structure going up! It had a full basement, three rooms upstairs - a large classroom and two smaller rooms which were used for cloak and utility and as library. There was also a corner of shelves for our dinner pails. There was a wonderful pedal-pump organ, gas light, large furnace - but we still carried water from O. J. Williams  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile south.

Clifton Carpenter of Munden taught Liberty Center in 1902-03. Griffin Hulbert, A. Richards, and J. Coons were the Board Members. E. E. Baird was the County Superintendent and in his report he states that the average number of months of school for the county was 5.5.

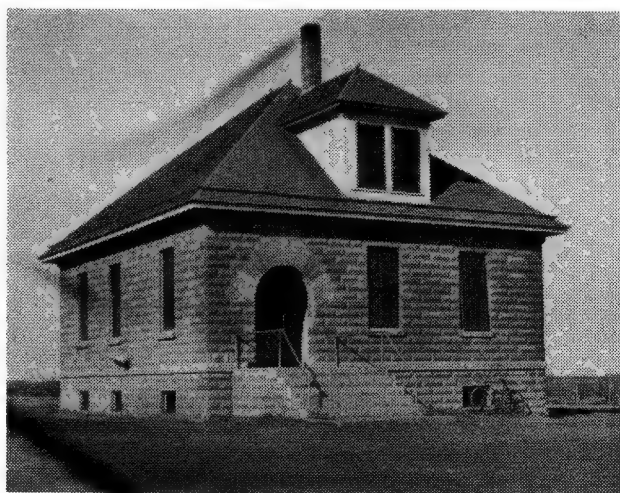
By 1906-07, while L. W. Nutter was County Superintendent, 7.28 months was the average length of school term for the county, so the terms grew longer as voters felt able to afford it. Liberty Center had 8 months taught by Miss Myrtle Van Aken at a salary of \$40 per month. H. Nesmith, Wm. Hunt, and John Coons were the Board Members.

By courtesy of Florence Larkins and also Maude Childs Rieke, we have this picture of Liberty Center



School, Dist. 56 about 1910 when Miss Alice Davis was the teacher and there were 30 pupils: Front row, left to right: Paul Nesmith, Floyd Coons, Ethel Warren a Hindman girl, Georgia Eaken, Alice Hunt, Gertie Childs, Elizabeth Childs, Maggie Hindman, Delmar Larkins. Second row, left to right: Earl Beauchamp, Helen Davis, Fern Beauchamp, Madge Hunt, Ruth Coons, Clifford Beauchamp, Frank Larkins, Earl Swaney, Jessie Hindman, Ethel Larkins, Clifford Nesmith and Beryl Nesmith. Third row, left to right: Maude Childs, May Beauchamp, Margaret Davis, Inez Richards, Maggie Boyer, Joe Hunt, Alice Davis the teacher, Della Coons, Harry Hunt.

Miss Maggie George (McAulay) now of Upton, Wyo., kindly responded to a letter she had received from Mrs. Helen Saip Daniels of Granada Hills, Calif. containing a clipping from the Belleville Telescope saying that we were needing pictures of schools. Miss Maggie George taught Liberty Center from Sept. 1916 until May 1919. During this time, the school received the required number of points to become a Standard School. We note that a stone structure has replaced the frame building. It has a basement as well as a room above. This may have afforded a place for the teacher to stay.







In this picture from left to right are: Miss Mary Jansky, Co. Supt. Back row: Dean Swaney, Floyd Coons, Barclay Gallion, Earl Beauchamp. Second row: Orville Childs, Irene Childs, Richard Gallion, and Persis Gallion. Third row: Leota Davis, Arthur Williams, Elizabeth Gallion and at the front, holding the plaque, Cecil Williams, and Velma Childs.

We have no accurate record for the teachers who were employed at Liberty Center through the years, but Irene Keeling listed these: Cliff Carpenter, Edith Glenn, Henry Peterson, Maude Whitcomb, Irma Stone, Alice Davis, Mae Davis, Dollie Frost, Lillie Dyer, Marie Gossart, Maggie George, Velda McCullough, Maude Childs, Irene Childs, Nellie Palmer, Lena Sankey, Violet Davis, Fontella Salmon, Sybil Davidson, Ivy Kraft, Irene Kraft, Mary Strunc, Inez Eason, Myrtle Van Aiken and Marie McNealy.



Liberty Center 1926-1927. Back row, left to right: Delcie Palmer, Velma Childs, teacher Irene Childs, Ruth Palmer, Beth Williams. Middle row: Gladys L. Davis, Esther J. Rieke, Grace Palmer, Opal D. Childs, Evelyn J. Hunt. Front row: Ronald Williams, Ivan Swaney, Gene Larkins. Picture furnished by Irene Childs Keeling.

By 1940, Dist. 56 included all of Sections 15, 21, 22, all but the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 16, and including the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sections 27 and 28. So the Dist. had lost five quarter sections of the

original district.

By this time the school was following the gradual population decline of this century. Miss Lena Sankey taught the 15 pupils and had all grades except the fifth. She received \$60 per month and had 8 college hours, and a State Elementary Certificate. There were only a few old County Certificates still in use.

Edith Palmer, Helen Coons and Barbara Davis were first grade; Melvin Beauchamp, Carol Hunt, and Wilma Beauchamp were second grade; Marjorie Coons was alone in the third grade; Evelyn Coons, Donna Palmer, and Glenn Beauchamp were in fourth grade; Elmore Palmer was alone in sixth grade; Robert Coons was seventh grade; and Wilma Davis, Elizabeth Hunt, and Duane Ricke were the eighth grade pupils who went to Belleville for eighth grade diploma examinations that spring. Duane and Wilma indicated they would go to Chester, Nebr. to high school and Elizabeth would go to Belleville high school.

There were 15 double desks in the classroom. A drinking-water cooler of crockery with individual cups, and a well on the school ground were an improvement over the old water pail and dipper of former years. However, the school used a wash basin with no paper towels as was common in most schools. There was no hot lunch equipment at the time, but lunch cupboards were used to store the lunch pails away from dust and flies. The library contained 210 books.

The curriculum consisted of reading, writing, arithmetic, plus English and language, and social studies (geography, history, some science and health) which Miss Sankey taught every day. She taught spelling Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; on Tuesday, music; and on Thursday, science. She taught writing Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; on Tuesday and Thursday, agriculture for eighth grade. Teachers had to stagger classes and days because of the many grade levels and increased subject matter to be covered.

In the school register for 1948, the teacher, Miss Juanita Horak, had 29 college hours from KSAC at Manhattan. She recorded that reorganization of school districts had not yet affected Dist. 56. In nearly ten years time lapse, we find Miss Horak has four days for spelling, writing on all five days, art for all grades on Thursday, and music on two days of the week, in addition to those subjects we mentioned before. The upper four grades now study health from texts, on two days, and science for all grades on two days. So the curriculum was stretching to the breaking point. This was typical for every school curriculum, so that, although enrollment had in most schools been cut back about half, the curriculum had broadened in the last half century. The atomic bomb and later, the Russian Sputnik, greatly increased the pressure upon schools to develop the science curriculum especially.

#### STAR DISTRICT 57

The first meeting held for this district was at T. E. Registers on Feb. 20, 1872. The men elected for a schoolboard were S. B. Langworthy, Ira T. Hobbs and Wm. Dooley.

On Aug. 9, 1883, William Dooley, Robert Register and C. A. Northrop held a district meeting at which time it was decided that Dist. 57 would have three months of school beginning the first Monday in Dec. 1883. The following



taxes were levied: teacher fund 10 mills, building fund, 10 mills; incidental fund 2½ mills. The board was instructed to hire Mrs. Studley for \$30 a month, and not to pay more than \$30 a month to any teacher.

In 1894, Agnes Glenn of Crainville taught this school for six months for \$33. The board at this time was composed of Fred Eickman, Joseph Northrop and J. R. Frame. This district had two graduates in 1894. They were Zulla and Zella Carpenter of Munden.



Ann Shulda of Belleville has shared this 1928 picture of Star School when Miss Ruth Sallman was the teacher of these 15 pupils: Back row, Albert Sterba, Kenneth Thomas, and Dale Pressnall. Second row: Bill Diggins, Erskine Eichmann and Ernest Jakabosky. Third row: Leah Rundus, Helen Sterba, Edith Carpeneter, Lillian Pressnall, Anne Sterba and Willard Carpenter. Front row: Gwentyth Pressnall, Viola Jakabosky and Leslie Carpenter.



In 1946, the schoolboard hired Grace Naylor to teach their school of three students.

Top left to right: Manning Allsman and Gery Allsman. Seated in front: Bernita Derowitsch, Lois Homolka and Laura Ann Naylor. The last two named were kindergartners and came to school on Fridays. Grace Naylor writes that the \$135 she received every month at that time seemed a lot. She writes, "Strange as it may seem to some, that was one of the happiest and busiest years of my teaching, and the children achieved so much."

Nearly every year during the years 1946-1952, the pupils at Dist. 57 enjoyed an April Fool's dress up day. The picture below illustrates that special day in April 1, 1949.

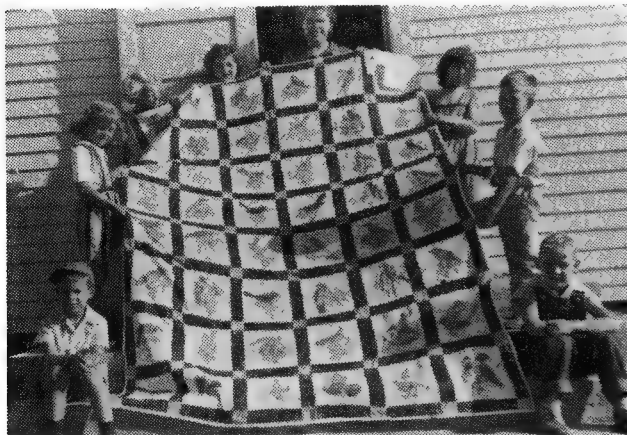


Left to right: John Allen Naylor, Lois Homolka, Laura Ann Naylor, Shirley Homolka, Susan Derowitsch, Bernita Derowitsch, Jane Allsman.

One of the special projects that took place in the Star School during the year 1949-1950 was the making of a quilt by the students and the teacher. The picture shows the group displaying this project. The students colored bird blocks with crayolas. The white blocks were 10 lb. sugar sacks, and the lining was feed sacks. It was set together with red strips and blue squares. A blanket filling was used and it was tied with red and white crochet thread. This won a blue ribbon at the school display at the

Belleville Fair in 1950. Mrs. Naylor reports that the coloring is still good even tho' the quilt has been washed.

Bottom left to right: Lynn Canning, Jane Allsman, Susan Derowitsch, Bernita Derowitsch, Mrs. Grace Naylor, Laura Ann Naylor, John Allen Naylor, Jack Derowitsch.



The last year of school held in this district was 1951-52. Grace Naylor was the last teacher and these people were the school board. Lloyd Derowitsch, M. L. Allsman, and Mrs. Ardis Canning. The students were the same as those in the project picture with Bernita Derowitsch being the exception.

Star School was disorganized July 5, 1955 with only two students left in the district. Like so many other Republic County Schools, it is still a memory to those who do not wish to forget pleasant memories.

Pictures courtesy of Mrs. Glen Shulda and Mrs. George Naylor.

#### PRAIRIE FLOWER SCHOOL DISTRICT 58

Prairie Flower School was located just north of District 56, south of the Nebraska state line and west of Highway 81. As all of the old records have been destroyed and the older pioneers are all gone it is hard to find the origin of the district, why it was named Prairie Flower, who gave the land and the first building although it is believed that there was only one building, the small frame building that stood for many years. Prairie Flower was located in Liberty township.

The first records of the teacher was Belle Stafford in

1904-1905, Miss Stafford taught for 6 months for \$35.50 a month, Z. Ireland, D. W. Larkins, and S. Edwards were the board members. In 1905-1906 Miss Ruth Kenny taught for 6 months for \$45 per month. In 1907-1908 Elsie Morehead taught for 8 months for \$40 a month, G. E. Mosier, W. Mitchell, and Mrs. L. Spafford were the board members. In 1908-1909, Bessie Hulbert taught 8 months for \$40 a month and 1909-1910 Jane W. McCulloch taught and in 1911-1912 Dollie Frost was the teacher.

Lela Davenport has shared this picture of a Children's Day Program when Sunday School was held in the Prairie Flower schoolhouse in 1910. A canopy was erected over the doorway to accommodate the huge crowd.

In 1944-1945 Miss Virginia Persinger taught for \$1040 for 8 months with an enrollment of 11. R. Harms, O. Gebers and C. Palmer were the board members.

1945-1946 was the last year that school was held at Prairie Flower, Miss Marjorie Reikie was the teacher, the enrollment was 7. They were: Vernon Gebers, Dixie Lee Wessel, Barbara Barnes, Delores Gebers, Arnita Harms, Delores Harms and Marion Gebers. Miss Reikie's salary was \$1000.

The next years the pupils were sent to other districts No. 54, No. 61 and No. 62 until the district was disorganized on August 10, 1951 and annexed to District Con. No. 227.

The school property was sold at a public auction, the school ground was purchased by Edwin J. Tietjen and Rosa Tietjen for the sum of \$50.



This picture is of the Prairie Flower School taken in the school term of 1907-1908. Miss Jane McCulloch was the teacher, Mrs. Merle Redenbo loaned us these pictures, she could not recall all of the pupil's names, however she is one of the pupils and her father, Z. Ireland was one of the school board members.

This picture is taken of the pupils of Prairie Flower School on October 12, 1912. We do not know the teacher at







that time.

Miss Maurine Larson was the teacher of these pupils at Prairie Flower, Dist. 58: Bottom of picture are: Harold



Milner, Dorothy Donaldson (right), Winifred McGregor, Darwin Housholder and Francis McGregor. At the top are: George Fike, Russel Dooley, Nova Claire Milner and Pauline Milner. Picture is courtesy of Mrs. Sylvia Donaldson.

This picture is of Prairie Flower School where for many years Sunday School and church was held each Sunday. This picture is of the Children's Day Program

held in the afternoon where a large crowd assembled to watch the program. As it was a hot, summer afternoon a shade was erected in the front of the building to protect the crowd from the hot sun. Courtesy of Lela Davenport.

All pictures are the courtesy of Mrs. Homer Redenbo, formerly Merle Ireland.

#### DISTRICT 59—BEAUCHAMP SCHOOL

Beauchamp School Dist. 59 was organized February 17, 1872. The schoolhouse was in the NE corner of Section 33 in Liberty Township. This is seven miles north and one west of Belleville.

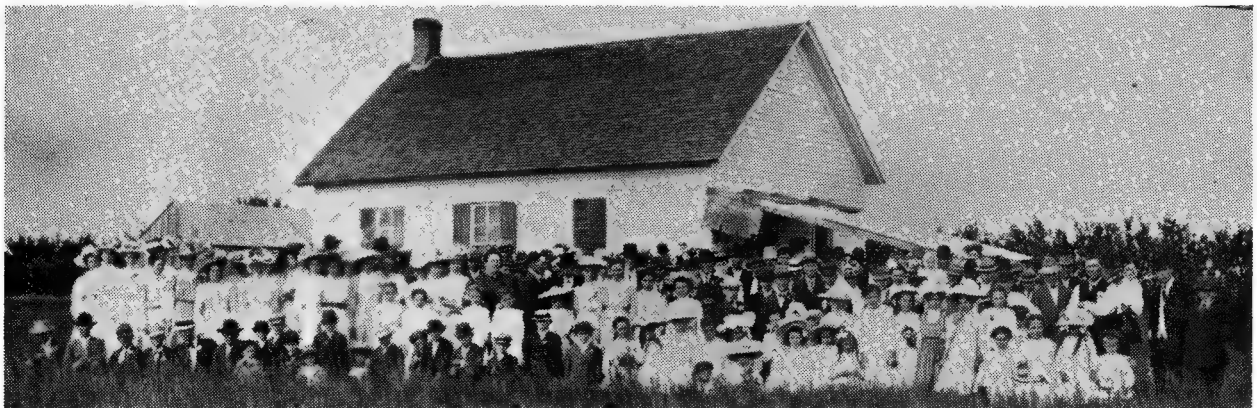


This is a picture taken in 1888 before the new addition to the building that year which gave four windows on each side. Anna Baily was the teacher of these 45 boys and girls. Walter Adams built the addition which was sorely needed at that time.

The first school board was: J. Beauchamp director, T. V. Brown clerk, and J. Stephenson treasurer.

Some of the early students of those first years were: Nora Helwick, Howard, Maude and Gertie Zech; Dan, Horace, John and Flora Stephenson; Dave, Maude and Nellie Wilkie; Edith, Agnes, Lizzie and Jessie Glenn; Ted and Bert Wilkes, and Emma, Ella, Birdie and Harmon Johnson.

Birdie Johnson, whose real name was Frances LaVonna, later became a teacher of Beauchamp School at the time of the "Great Blizzard of '88". (Some of our readers will be interested to know that Birdie was the mother of Edythe Lowell who later also taught





Beauchamp School.)

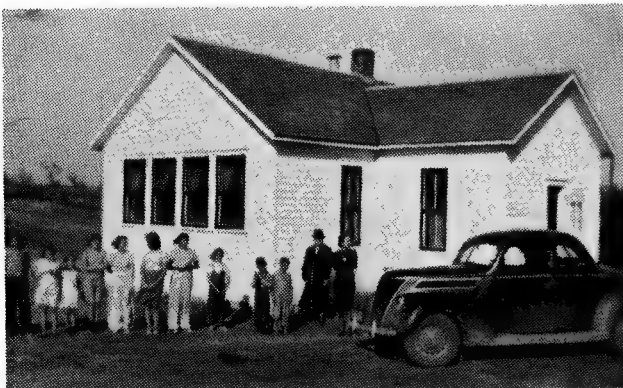
Mrs. Glenn, mother of Lizzie, Agnes and Jessie, started out on foot in that blizzard to try to reach her children. She was overcome by the storm and would have undoubtedly perished had not a neighbor happened along and found her.

At the same time, Birdie Johnson and several of the older girls started out to go one quarter mile south of the school. The teacher would also have perished, but was saved by the determined effort of her students.



In 1898 while Mr. Hall was teaching at District 59 and Miss Edythe Lowell has given identification for it: Front row, left to right: Mable Griffeth, Ruth Zech, Nina Griffeth, Bert Lowell, Earl Sprague, Charlie Kelly, Martin Beecher. Middle row: Robert Kelley, Curtis Sprague, Alex Glen, Jay Perry, Bessie Smith, Edythe Lowell, Vina Smith, Esla West, Jesse Smith. Back row: Bob Smith, Howard Zech, Bert Smith, Horace Stephenson, Tacy West, Maude Zech, Bert West, Elsie Beauchamp, the teacher Mr. Hall, and in front of him Willie Stephenson.

Several of those early students became very well-known over the county. Among them was Frank Bachelor of Bachelor Furntiure and Undertaking. Both Lizzie and Agnes Glenn served as missionaries to Japan for many years. Howard Zech served the county as clerk of the court and was also manger of the Farmers' Union Store in Belleville. Gertie Canfield, who with her husband ran a restaurant in Belleville, was known for the good food. The Stephenson family were well-known farmers of Republic County. Such people as these have come from the many schools of the county-pioneering in new fields, working for the betterment of living conditions, creating a very desirable place in which their children and their grandchildren could continue to achieve goals that make this county great.



Orel Davidson taught at Beauchamp School, and has loaned us this picture of the last schoolhouse. The teacher Miss Garnet Davidson and her pupils from Ida School were visitng: Norval Dean Mulch, Patty and Shirley Mulch and Lorene Shulda. Beauchamp pupils: Mary Levendovsky, Jean Doctor, Ellen Levendovsky, Donna Childs, Dickie Childs, John Levendovsky, (George Levendovsky absent), Mrs. Myrtie Davidson and Garnet Davidson.

#### DISTRICT 60—GRACE HILL SCHOOL

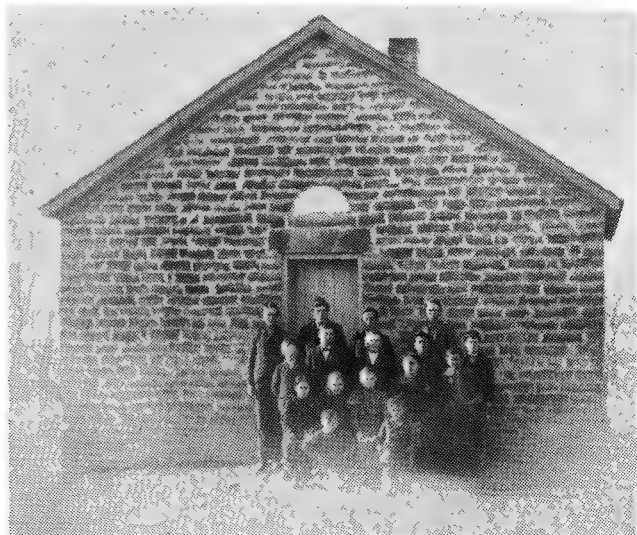
On April 9, 1873 District 60 was organized and according to early records the following school board members were director, John Fulcomer Clerk, J. I. Osman and treasurer, Herbert Doty.



An earlier meeting on March 27, 1873 was held at the home of Mrs. Mourning Cox Osman (now the Barnhart place). This may not have been the first meeting as the record shows an unknown director in the chair and signed by A. Kuhn, clerk.

Bonds were let April 26, 1873 by I. O. Savage to the amount of \$315 of which \$160 was used for building materials, \$42.50 for stone, \$69.50 for stone work, and \$43.00 for carpenter work. Here is the picture of that original stone school building.

In 1874 it is stated they spent \$3.00 for desks.



The first contracted teacher was J. S. Carpenter for a 3-month term at \$20 per month to commence on May 4, 1874. Then his 4-month contract at \$25 per month began on September 21 that year.

Here are some of the expenditures: coal bucket, window glass, and lock for \$1.75. Another purchase of chalk, matches and broom .50 and a ton of coal for \$3.00.

For nearly a hundred years the hedge trees that were set around the school lot have served to fence the playground. In 1880 the board was instructed to set the plants and attend them so that there would be a good fence by 1885 "or forfeit the deed to said grounds".

Taxes also increased as they voted one percent for the teacher fund and a quarter percent or 2½ mills for incidental expenses.

On April 26, 1886 it was voted to fence the west and north sides of the school ground with a seven-wire fence. The hedge must not have been tight enough to hold children inside and animals outside.

The schoolhouse shown at the beginning of this report was built in 1913. (Picture courtesy of Ella Smith-Swenson) The expenses were: \$852.75 Foster Lumber Co., \$644.55 to carpenters Myers and Gaylord, \$78.86 to George Collins Hardware Co. - Total \$1576.16. The first teacher in the new school was Pearl Foster (now Mrs. James Street) and the Board was A. B. Whitla, director; P. M. Seaman, treasurer; and J. W. Barnhart, clerk.

In 1954 the new road bed for U. S. 81 Highway was constructed and a fraction of the schoolground was taken. A new wire fence was allotted by the State of Kansas amounting to \$580.

A new district was formed May 23, 1962 after the disorganization of Dist. 60 Grace Hill, Dist. 22 Belleville Center and Dist. 50 Bowling Green and was titled Con. Dist. 22 Belleville Center. Grace Hill School was sold at auction to George Sis.

The roster of teacher and the dates employed follows:

#### In the stone school building

1874	J. S. Carpenter
	Celia Weaver
	E. R. Armstrong
	E. M. Carpenter
1887-88	Mary Beecher
1882-83	Nannie Kessler
1883-84	J. O. Osman
1885-86	Lois Sprague
1886-87	Bertha Sherdin
1887-88	May Wilbur
1888-89	Mary Beecher
1889-90	Alpha Baxter
1890-91	Mrs. Annie Carson
1891-92	Cora Whitsitt
1892-93	J. W. Kuhn
1893-94	Celia Ainsworth Kuiken
1894-96	Mr. G. D. Heaton
1896-97	Mabel Daniels
1897-98	C. E. Sherwood
1898-99	Bessie Houdek Lang
1899-1900	Walter Brown
1900-01	Myrtle Sissell
1901-02	Mamie McGlashan
1902-03	Lillian Norris
1903-04	Myrtle Sherwood Dewey
1904-05	Ada Burandt
1905-06	Susie Harlow

1906 2½ mo.	J. W. Kuhn
1906-07	Hessie Bayes Kelley
1907-08	Effie Brown
1908-09	Ethel Garver Branson
1909-10	Ruth Dallas
1910-11	C. M. Leggitt
1911-12	Alex Davis
1912-13	Roy Leggitt

#### In the new building:

1913-14	Pearl Foster
1914-15	Catherine Wells Farlee
1915-16	Lillian Huzen Reddick
1917-19	Muriel Thompson Logan
1919-20	Alma Barnhart Asher
1920-22	Prudence Strong Pentico
1922-23 6½ mo.	Emma Klaumann
1½ mo.	Mrs. Bessie Walters
1923-24	Olive Wells Faulkner
1924-25-26	Odessa Murphy Hanzlick
1926-27	Florence Martin Cundiff
1927-1930	Ella Smith Swenson



She has loaned us this picture: Jack Branson, Lillie, Blanche, John, and Mike Novak; Lena, Sara, Lettie and Jimmie Seaman; Curtis and Elizabeth Hanzlen; Hazel, Ethel, Edward and Daisy Kun; Mike Alkire and Thomas Sanford.

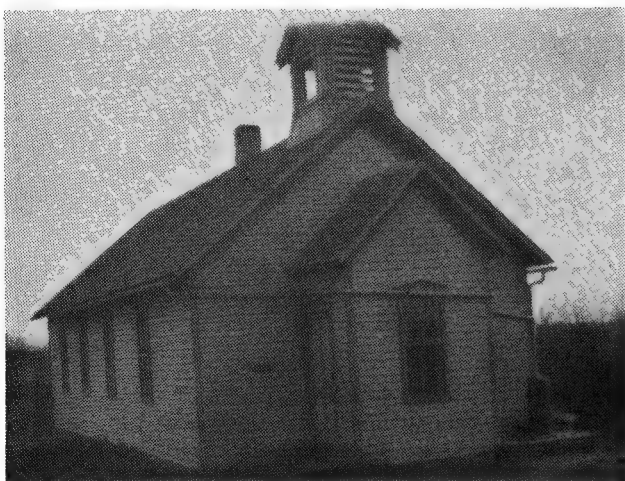
1930-32	Laverne Larson Currie
1932 first sem.	Lillian Wilber Kelly
1932-33 second sem.	
and 1933-34	Opal Westhausen Reese
1934-35	Ruth Sallman Vollen
1935-39	Norman Burandt
1939-40	Marjorie Douglas Campbell
1941-45	Isabel Hansen
1945-47	Irene Swanson Danielson
1947-48	Ernie Frint
1948-49	Joann Alkire Roland
1950-51	Lorene Heyka
1951-52	Edith Kine Spellman Stubbs
1952-55	Mrs. Emma Beck
1955-59	Orel M. Davidson
1959-60	Gus Danielson
1960-61	Mrs. Florence Milner
1961-66	Mrs. Hazel Mulch taught the six children at Belleville Center as there was no

school at Grace Hill.

Grace Hill Homecoming Programs were held for many years usually in the afternoon of the Sunday following the closing of school.

# **DISTRICT 61 - PLEASANT GROVE** (AMBROSE SCHOOL)

The organization of Pleasant Grove on August 8a 1878 was in a grove, just east of the school site. Its location is in Section 19 -2 -4 in Union Township, Republic County, Kansas. The school received its name from the nice grove near-by.



C.J. Strom received the contract to build this first schoolhouse for \$36. Before it was more than half finished, a prairie fire destroyed it and all of his tools on March 26, 1879. Later, J.L. Norton received the contract to build the one in this picture for \$65. (This picture courtesy of Mrs. Homer Cardwell) and was taken in 1910. Note that the building has a cistern and catches the water-supply from the roof.

School opened first on April 12, 1880 with D.P. Johnson as teacher for 28 pupils. Board members were Joe Cardwell, S. Sherdahl, and J.W. Ambrose. It was a 20' by 30' building at the NE corner of Section 19. An addition of twelve feet was built in 1890 and wages were \$25 per month for 3-month term.

A new building in 1925 was constructed at the cost of \$3,300 and Myrtle Larson (Nondorf) was the first teacher in it.



Through the years 53 teachers have taught Pleasant Grove. Homecomings were an annual event from April 1935 to 1966.

Electricity was installed in April 1950, and then propane heating came to Pleasant Grove in 1955. It was enhanced with the building of cabinets in 1958.

What a record of which to be proud - eighty-two years of continuous service! The fall of 1963 the school was closed and the pupils entered Republic and Scandia Schools. The building was sold May 31, 1968 for \$50. and stands vacant in 1976. The land went back to the original farm.

Pleasant Grove is located 5 miles north and 1 west of Scandia or 3½ miles south and 1 mile east of Republic in Union Township.



In 1891 the teacher was Miss Bula Ward and these 36 pupils were her pupils. (According to Mrs. Homer Cardwell, Bertha Ward (Van Nortwick) of California is the only living pupil in 1976). They are: Bottom row, left to right- Jack Ambrose, Ruby Otto, Maude Stromberg, Claud Cardwell, Arthur Stromberg, Pearl Otto. Bertha Ward, Martha Kathrineberg, Jesse Ward and Toy Wilkins. Second row-Arthur Cardwell, Mellie Kathrineberg, Pleo Stromberg, Bula Ward the teacher, Joe Cardwell, Agnes Rasmussen, Hilma Rosene, Winnie Ambrose, George Stromberg. Third row- Albert Larson, Lew Rasmussen, Hulda Lofgren, Ward, Milt Sherrard, Mae Wilkins, Charles Ambrose, Ora Ward, Mayme Ambrose and Henry Rosene. Top row- Wendla Rosene, Laura Rasmussen, Anna Rosene, Pete Rasmussen, Ben Dancy, Eva Otto, Theo Otto, and Jim Dancy.

Miss Ward taught 32 weeks for a salary of \$37.50 a month.

## **ROSTER OF TEACHERS** per mo.

April 12, 1880	D. P. Johnson	12 weeks	\$20
1881	Ella Templeton	12 weeks	\$20
1881	R.J. Ewing	12 weeks	\$25
1882	Racina Cooper	12 weeks	\$20
1882	Charlie Christie	12 weeks	\$30
1883	R.J. Ewing	12 weeks	\$30
1883	Oberia Early	20 weeks	\$30
1884	Rose Dancy	12 weeks	\$20
1884	John R ward	32 weeks	\$30
1885	R.J. Ewing	28 weeks	\$35
1886	Rose Dancy		\$35.50
1887	Rose Dancy		\$38.33
1888-9	Doure Davis	34 weeks	\$40
1889-90	Goerge Letsinger	59 pupils	\$37.50
1890	Clara Rosenquist	32 weeks	\$32.50



1891	Bulah Dancy	32 weeks	\$37.50
1892	Viola Welsh	32 weeks	\$40
1893	Leroy Griffin	28 weeks	\$40
1894	Pricia Maxwell	28 weeks	\$40
1895	D.F. Hancock	32 weeks	\$35
1896	E.L. Johnson	8 mos.	\$35
1897	E.J. Myers	8 mos.	\$40
1898	C.A. Merrifield	7 mos.	\$40
1899-1900	Mayme Ambrose	7 mos.	\$35 and \$37.50
1901	Grace Morris	7 mos.	\$36
1902	Bertha Tobin	7 mos.	\$38
1903	Minnie Bowersox	7 mos.	\$45
1904	Mayme Ambrose	7 mos.	\$45
1905	Bertha McEwen	7 mos.	\$45
1906-07	Addie Gile	7 mos.	\$50
1908	Anna Jennings	7 mos.	\$50
1909	Cora corbet and Myrtle Courtner	7 mos.	\$45-\$50
1910-11	Edgar Rickel	7 mos.	\$65
1912	Albina Evans	7 mos.	\$50
1913	Nora Elliot	7 mos.	\$55
1914	Mable Courtner	8 mos.	\$60
1915-18	Hugh Clark	7 mos.	\$70
1918	Nora Perkins		
1919	Ethel Charles		
1919-20	Zellah Mosher		\$90-\$95



On Valentine's Day 1921 the teacher Miss Zellah Mosher (Berggren) gave this picture to her pupils. Bernice Grandstedt (Gordon) loaned us her 55-year old treasure of memories: Front row, left to right;

Lucille Ambrose, Roslyn Stafford, Maurien Ambrose, Marjorie Stafford, Ruby Stafford, Bernice Brandstedt and Ethel Nelson. Back row: Charles Rasmussen, John Van Nortwick, Russell Van Nortwick, Marvin Rosene, Max Muth, Ralph Van Nortwick, Gerhard Nelson and Fred Cline.

1921	Delpha Williams	8 mos.	\$95
1922	Jessie Mae Simms	8 mos.	\$80
1923-24	Mabel Strom	8 mos.	\$80
1925-26-27	Myrtle Larson	8 mos.	\$90-\$95
1928	Audrey Tedrow	8 mos.	\$85
1929-30	George morgan	8 mos.	\$95-\$100
1931-32	Leonard Van Nortwick	8 mos.	\$85-\$75
1933-34	Lucille Roberts	8 mos.	\$55
1935	Virgie Goodyear	8 mos.	\$57.50
1936	Arden Nelson	8 mos.	\$50

1937	Gwendolyn Stafford	\$60
1938-39	Margery Vance	\$55-\$60
1940-41-42	Vera Cockran	\$60-65-77
1943-44-45	Marjorie Carpenter Stafford	
1946	Phyllis Morehead	
1947-48-49-50	Irene Swanson Danielson	
1951	Velma Smith McCullough	
1952-3-4	Garnett Davidson 10 pupils	



Miss Garnett Davidson taught the three years of 1952, 53, and 54 and this was the first day of school in 1954: Back row- Jackie Gritten, Peggy Freed, Ramona Smith, the teacher Miss Davidson. Front row: Steven Sandell, H. Elbert Sandell, jr., Ilene Sandell, Leon Lindecrantz. David Freed, Patty Stafford and Rodney Sandell.

1958-60-62 Laverne Larsen Currie, longest contracted teacher

1962 Mrs. Don Charles (Jean) ½ term

1963 Mrs. Roy Moore (Mildred) ½ term

There was a shortage of teachers and no more school was held.



The last term was taught by Mrs. Roy Moore (Mildred) in 1963 — the last semester.

The pupils were: back row- Glen Lervold, Kenneth



Gritten, Roger Stafford and the teacher Mrs. Mildred Moore. Middle row- Gary Lervold, Garold Sandell, Richard Sandell, Duane Gritten. Front row- Beth Johnson, Ann Johnson, Janet Lervold, and Linda Lindecrantz.

This was taken on the last day May 25, 1963

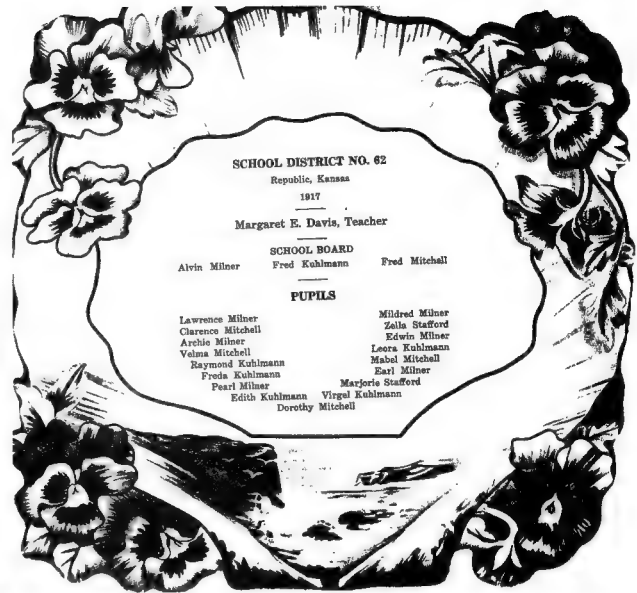


So this school has served to put another chapter in the history of education in Republic County. It is with regret that we close that illustrious chapter.

#### DISTRICT 62 - MILNER SCHOOL

On Jan. 25, 1873 the Milner School was organized in Liberty Township. It included Sections 17, 18, 19, 20, plus the N½ of 29 and 30. This schoolhouse was on the NE corner of Section 19. In 1902 Mr. R.A. Branson was the teacher. Ben Moxham, William Leeding, and Sam Stafford were the Board members.

"Of all the memories of the past, School memories are the ones that last." (Souvenir 1911 courtesy of Mrs. Howard Anderson). Miss Mamie Sanford was the teacher at Milner School with these seventeen pupils: Alvin Milner, Merle Milner, Leo Milner, Harry Milner, Clare Harsh, Ralph ZWilson, Orval Stafford, Eva Milner, Florence Mitchell, Clarence Mitchell, Laurence Milner, Joe Moxham, Mildred Milner, Archie Milner, Zella Stafford, Ellis Dugger, Raymond Kuhlmann. Bert Milner was



clerk of the board, Arthur Kuhlmann, director and Walter Wilson was treasurer.

Here is the Souvenir presented to Mildred Milner in 1917 by her teacher, Margaret E. Davis. It was so pretty we must copy it!



We were loaned these pictures by Miss Emma Klaumann. She taught Milner School in 1920-21 with these pupils: Leora, Virgil, Raymond and Edith Kuhlmann, Edwin, Earl, Pearl and Max Milner, Ernest Goodger and Bernice Curry. Raymond had quit school on account of sickness.

In 1921 Milner School Board members were: Fred C. Kuhlmann, Alvin Milner, and Bert Milner.

These were early teachers at Milner School: Francis Rundus, Henry Childs, Jessie (Glenn) Childs, Lizzie Glenn 1903, Roscoe Branson, Ed Stafford 1904, Della Booze,

- 1907 Francis Williams - 1 month  
Cora Simpson
- 1908 no record
- 1909 Jeanette Salsbury
- 1910 Helen McCullough
- 1911 Mabel Kempton and Mamie Sanford
- 1912 Jay Davis, Margaret Davis

1913	no record
1914	Lilly Dyer Pracht
1918	Laora Carey
1919	Alona Stay
1920	Emma Klaumann
1921	Bessie Carey
1922	Edith Wilkes
1923	Mildred Smith
1924	no record
1925 & 26	Emma McDowell
1927 & 28	Iola Gunnison
1929	Mary Milner
1930	Julia Powers
1931 - 36	no record
1937 & 38	Mildred McCracken
1940	Delored Visnefski
1944	Grace Mosher
1945	Pupils sent to Beauchamp for \$300 tuition
1946	Marjorie Rieke
1947 & 48	Mary Levendovski
1949	Gertrude Wall

We are indebted to Mrs. Howard Anderson for the teacher research. She says the early schoolhouse was bought and moved to Casper Jehlik's farm south of the school.

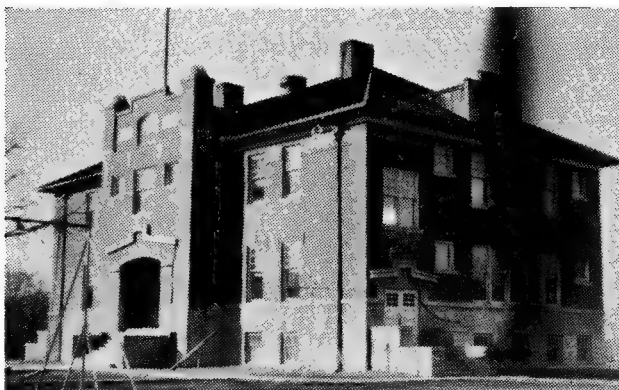
#### DISTRICT 63 - REPUBLIC AND R.H.S. 3

Big Bend Township was organized in 1866. The first school taught in Big Bend Township was in the winter of 1871-1872. The building used for a school house was on John Pecht's claim, located three and one-half miles north west of where Republic is now. It was a little log cabin 10x12 feet built of small cottonwood logs chinked up and daubed with earth and straw. The building was covered with split poles, brush and straw and also earth. It had a board floor made of rough cottonwood lumber and in the south side of the building there was a hole 12x18 inches to admit light and air and to watch for Indians.

Mr. Pecht and his family had lived in this log cabin until he built a new cabin after he had purchased the claim. This left the smaller log cabin vacant until it was secured for a school house. The hole was closed up and windows were put into each end by putting in the sash lengthwise and a board shelf 12x14 inches wide was fastened against the wall at each end for a desk, two heavy cottonwood slabs were secured from the saw mill at White Rock out of which seats were made by boring holes and inserting wooden pins for legs. When a pupil wished to use his desk or shelf he had to turn around and sit with his back to the teacher.

Ten pupils were enrolled this first term. Mr. J.D. Leigh was the first teacher. He taught a term of three months for \$25 a month. (This account was taken from I.O. Savage's history of Republic County.) From other sources it was related to me that this log building had been moved to Snyder's Creek south of Republic on the Polly place and used there until a school was built in Republic (the first school in Republic) located west of the railroad track where Erma Stromberg lived. This was in 1872. William Polly, Milton, Polly and P.H. Stafford were the school board members. Mr. C.S. Earley and Miss Wise were two of the first teachers. On March 11, 1873 A.O. Marble Co. Superintendent declared the following; all of

sections one and two, Township two Range 4 north of the Republican River to District 63.



In 1887 the question of a more adequate school building was brought before the people. After much debate and several votings, it was agreed to build a two story brick building on block two of the central addition, which was out in the country. The old frame school house was sold to George Beck and moved to his farm, and used for many years, part of the time as a barn. Ten grades were offered in the new school. The first graduating exercises with a program were in the Baptist Church in 1901 and had three graduates, Myrtle Frost, Susie Simms Slopansky, and Edna Polley Smith. In 1907 this building was torn down and a new one built giving room for a Domestic Science and an agriculture Course also rest rooms facilities. In 1912 a twelve year course was established and Normal Training was offered. Some outstanding teachers came from this school. The largest graduating class was in 1940 with 26 graduates.

This building was condemned by the state in 1947 and for two years pupils attended classes in various buildings over town, until the controversies could be ironed out. A grade and High School was built at the southeast corner of town in Washington Township. Ten acres of the Harmon Sankey Estate was pruchased and the school house and shop were built. The Gymnasium was built in the center of the building and has a large stage with adjoining dressing rooms. The main floor is adequate to seat sixteen hundred people. An active P.T.A. served the community for many years, Basketball tournaments, music festivals and outstanding Christas programs and operettas were enjoyed by many.

This mew building opened in September, 1951. R.H. 3 with an enrollment of 43. Grade School 63 with an enrollment of 60. Mr. Robert N. Jones was the first



superintendent. The high school teachers were; Mrs. Frances Jones (1 semester), (replaced by Don Hinks), Mrs. Alta Crawford, Mr. Glenn Crawford and Miss Flora Loomis. School board members were; Alvin Peterson, Glenn Farlee, Clifford McClure, Don Charles,, and Howard Millen. The first graduates from the new building were; Janet Millen, James Daugherty, and Wallace Mc Nitt.

Several sets of twins wre born in and around the Republic community. At one time five sets attended the Republic School. They were: Arlene and Charlene Daugherty, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Daughtery, Louise and Lois Fuller, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Danny Fuller, Larry and Fary Heyka, sons of Mr. and Mrs. G.H. Heyka, Arlene and Charlene Kathrineberg, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Kathrineberg, and Charlotte and Charlene Rahe, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Rahe.

The grade school teachers were Mrs. Ida Mitchell, Mrs. Muriel Tallent (Mrs. Tallent taught the 3rd and 4th bgrades from 1951 until 1975 when she retired, a total of 24 years which she believes is a record for Republic, at least). Miss Vanita Herpick, and Miss Mary Anthony. The board members were; Harold Sankey, Verl F. Beck, and E.A. Sommerholder. Mr. Don Hinks began teaching the second semester in the high school in 1951 and taught until 1957. He returned in 1962 as the Superintendent and remained until 1975 when a superintendent was no longer required.

During the years many changes took place in the school and districts. Many outlying districts were annexed to 3 and 63, school buses were added, hot lunches served, daily Kindergarten, a secretary, Mrs. Phyllis Hofts served for many years, more teachers were hired and more courses were offered in the high school. In 1967, however, nearly all the districts north of Belleville were annexed to District 14 (Belleville) making a new Unified District 427 and Republic became an attendance center, as did Munden and Washington Center. Mr. Don Hinks served as principal with Mr. F.E. Barker of Belleville as superintendent of the unified district.

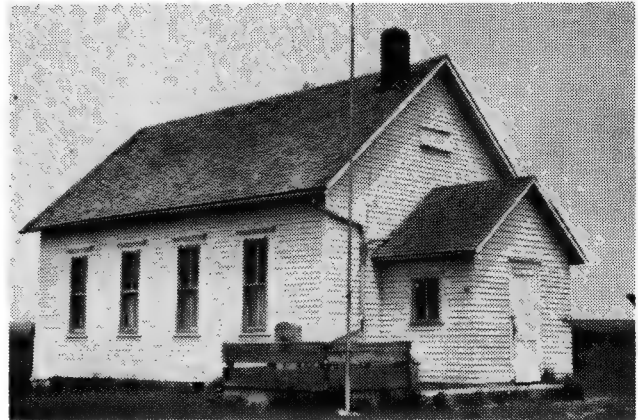
In 1972 the High School was closed. The last graduating class of District 3 were; Ricky Albertson, Thomas Clar, Randall Evert, Marilyn Farlee, John Gunn, Scott Hobson, Roger Kentigh, Harrold Roe, Colleen Steier, Linda Thayer, Paul Thornton, Lynn VanNortwick and Vickie Todd.

In 1975 all the grade school pupils except first, second and kindergarten attended school elsewhere, some to Belleville, some to Courtland and Byron, Nebr. Mrs. Sybil Rahe taught the first and second grades in 1975 and 1976 as she has since 1956. She will teach the first, second and third grades in 1976-1977 with an enrollment of around twenty. indergarten will also be offered for the 1976-1977 term with Mrs. Mary Rundus as teacher. She has taught there since 1973.

In 1975-1976, The Republic County Developmental Center was taught in the Republic school with Mrs. Boaz of Belleville as head supervisor. —By Mrs. Muriel reed Tallent.

#### DISTRICT 64 - PRAIRIE ROSE

Prairie Rose School was organized in March 1872. The frame building was fuilt on the treeless prairie. It was



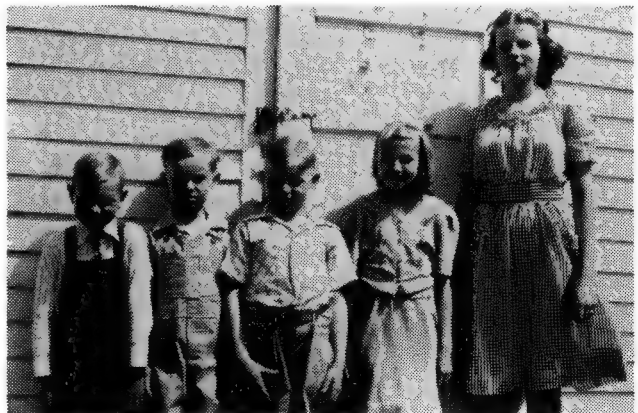
paintted white and could be seen for miles. Someone siad it was like a "rose" on the prairies.

The first board members were: C.D.Spiva, director; George G. Kephart, clerk; and P. Swyhart, treasurer.

The Prairie Rose schoolhouse was located in the SE corner of Secion 6 in Union Township. It is two miles south and three-fourths east of Republic and the western boundary follows the Republican River for about a mile.



When Miss Mae Berggren (Sandell) taught Prairie Rose School in 1943-44, the pupils: Dennis Linden, Leonard Ballard, Alice Ballard, Eldine Carlson and C.H. Katherinberg.



A few years later, Miss Evelyn Carlson was the teacher and these were her pupils shortly before the school closed: Charles Cline, Dennis Linden, Charles



Jensen and Shirley Anderson.

In 1951 the school closed for lack of pupils and was joined with District 61 in July of that year. The last board members were: Mrs. Edwin Anderson, C.H. Katherineberg, and Joseph E. Cline.

The original building was sold to Cheslie Boylan and it is used today as a garage.

#### SCHOOL DISTRICT 65 - LINCOLN JT. 2 R. & J.

The first meeting of this district was held on April 12, 1872 and the following persons were duly elected and qualified as officers of this district. William White, Director; A.R. Peckham, clerk and Humphry Smith, Treasurer.

During the months of October, November, and December, 1875 and January, 1876, four months school was taught in a log house which was the home of Charles Stewart of the farm owned by Burt Nelson in 1963. The school was taught by Mrs. Julia Stewart at \$20 per month. With an enrollment of 30. Mrs. Stewart also taught two months summer school during June and July 1876 and was paid at the end of the term. Funds were mighty short in those days.

The plans for this school were made at a special meeting called to meet at the home of George W. Reynolds and adjourned to the home of Charles Stewart. This must have been the first election as all officers were elected to serve the balance of the year. They were Charles Stewart, Director A.H. Poole, Clerk and S.P. Hodge, Treasurer. The first annual meeting was held on the 10th day of August 1876.

On Dec. 15, 1875 this school became Jt. 2 Jewell and Republic and it must have been under the jurisdiction of Jewell County. The district then contained five quarter sections in Jewell County and twenty-five quarter sections in Republic County making a district three miles east and west and two and a half miles north and south. This continued through 1877 but sometime before the annual meeting in 1878 the boundaries were changed. Jewell County was being cut out and the district was changed to No. 65. It so continued until 1907 when a small amount of land was annexed from Jewell again making it Jt. 2 R. & J. After the summer school taught by Mrs. Stewart for two months in 1876, school was held at the home of George Camp where (R.C. Wyman) now lives. This school was taught by Mrs. Jennie Camp who taught three months in the spring of 1877, three months in the spring of 1878 and five months during the winter of 1878 and 79. No more school was taught in the district until the opening of the new school house March 15th, 1880.

At a special meeting held at the residence of Charles Stewart, plans were made for the erection of a new school house. This was on the 24th day of August 1878. Bonds were voted at an election held on the 13th day of September 1879, the amount of these bonds, it is believed, was \$400.00. There had been another meeting previous to this one on the first day of September, 1879 to choose a site for the school house. This meeting was held after a very warm campaign in which the district was divided into two factions. The vote was 30 for the site where the schoolhouse was later built, and 17 for the site one-half mile south. Bids were submitted to seven different contractors and ranged from \$58 to \$88. Contract was let to

William Post for \$60, and he was required to give a bond of \$300 to be responsible for building materials, etc. By 1880 the building was completed and the annual meeting was held there on August 12. The first teacher to be hired for the new school was Mr. E.A. Johnson who taught a three-month term beginning on Mar. 15, for twenty dollars a month with an enrollment of 35 and did chores for his board. He slept in a straw stable which leaked and after a hard rain the bedding would have to hang out to dry to be ready to be used the next night.



Mr. Carl Westin, who was Superintendent of Public Instruction for Jewell County (1957-69), writes:

Only three miles from the old city White Rock, was the school house for Lincoln District 65, located in the NW corner of Section 29 in White Rock Township northwest of Courtland. In 1884, J.A. Glenn owned the N½ of Section 29. Most of the following information was given by Claude Boyles who lives in Jewell County. He and his twin brother, Clyde, began class work in Lincoln when they were in the second grade about the turn of the century. The school building was erected long before that time and is now part of the building site of Orland Boyles ¾ miles north of Courtland. Lincoln School was one of large enrollments. Mrs. Boyles mentioned yearly enrollments of more than 40.

Martin Dale Boyles, formerly Superintendent of Hillcrest School of Cuba, Kansas and presently Mankato Superintendent of Schools, attended Lincoln School through his eight grades. Some of the teachers were: Grace McClure, Lillie McClure, Gertrude Nutter, Lydie McKay, Lillie Noble, Arlo Howell, and William Moneysmith, of Formoso who was remembered for his special talents in discipline!

The largest family in numbers was the John Swanson family with Fred, Clarence, Sadie, Carl, Helen, Ruby, Oscar and Evelyn.

Mr. Boyles recalled these Lincoln School students he knew: Roy, Elmer, Jay and Pearl Foster; Arden Perry, Irma and Gladys Dick; Edythe and Leonard Rupert; Albert Billings, Ethel and Roy Weir; Fred, Edith, and Ray Martin; Ernest and Grahma Curtis; Walter, Horace, May, and Olive Ferguson; Elmer Thomas, Sam and Ed Persinger whose fathers fought for the South in the Civil War. Earl, Howard and Wilma Harvey; Elmer and Clyde Gossett; Rose, Clark, Floyd and Alva Sisson; Dessie Fisher, Elias, Mary, Dessie and Bert Conley; Edna, Lydia, Rosie and Hazel Hammond.

Hazel Hammond made a fine career of teaching. Ed



Hammond, their father, and my father attended District 24 in their youth.

The Conley's later attended Lawrence School. Etta, Ida and Earl Porter were in school with the Boyles. Etta was my first teacher at Lawrence School. In ever saw her againg. Often I wished I could have told her what a wonderful person she was."

Mr. Westin attended Lawrence School District 49 and taught two terms in Willow Dale District North of Cour-  
tland.

### Teacher's Contract.

It is hereby Agreed, By and between SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 65  
County of Republic State of Kansas, and Blanche Griffiths  
a legally qualified Teacher, that said  
Teacher is to teach govern and conduct satisfactorily, the public school of  
said district, and keep a register of the daily attendance and studies of each  
pupil belonging to the school, and such other records as the Board may require, and make  
the report required by law, and endeavor to preserve in good condition and order, the  
edifice, grounds, furniture, apparatus, and such other district property as may come under the  
immediate supervision of said Teacher, for a term of Three months, for the sum of  
Twenty five \$35.00 DOLLARS per month, commencing on  
the 15th day of February A.D. 1888. And the said School  
District hereby agrees to keep the school house in good repair, provide the necessary fuel and  
school register, and for the services of said Teacher, as prescribed above, well and duly  
performed, to pay said Teacher the sum of Twenty five (\$35) Dollars,  
on or before the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 1888.

In Witness Whereof, We have hereunto subscribed our hands, this 30th  
day of January 1888

ATTEST:

John W. Simpson  
DISTRICT CLERK.

Charles Stewart  
DIRECTOR.  
Blanche Griffiths  
TEACHER.

This is from Hazle Hanzlick whose mother was  
Blanche Griffiths.

"From 1876-1888 these teachers were employed to  
teach in this district: Julia Stewart, Jennie Camp, E.A.  
Johnson, Laura McDaniel, Jennie Curtis, E.B. Curtis,  
Nora Pollard, Charles Reynolds, and Blanche Griffiths.  
Miss Blanche Griffiths came from Cedar Rapids, Iowa and  
stayed with her aunt and uncle, the Marsh Cardwells.  
(The contract is enclosed). She married Charlie Poole on  
January 20, 1889 and was the mother of four girls, three of  
whom were teachers.

Pupils attending from October to December 1875 and  
taught by Julia Stewart are: Nellie Reyonlds, Allie  
Reyonlds, Kurtis, Kerman, Lottie Reynolds, Ida Camp,  
Ada Camp, Bertie White, Mary Stafford, Minnie Haney,  
Sadie Taylor, Lour Taylor, Nannie Fsiher, Charlie Taylor,  
Isaac Taylor, Oliver Taylor, Walter Pool, Elias Conley,  
Abe Clark, John Taylor, Levi Wells, Bertie Ballard,  
Eddie Ballard, Sammie Ballard, Charlie Ballard, Bertie  
Sumphear, Herbert Harris, Wallace Camp, Marshall  
Workman, Ella Bain, and Herman Bain. , a total of 30  
pupils. There were no grades, just an attendance record.

From Dec. 2, 1889 to Apr. 4, 1890, Byron F. Savage  
taught 48 pupils, ages 5 to 20. They are as follows: Maude,  
Ida and Lloyd Baker; the Camp children—Minnie, Nellie,  
Charlie, Florence, Frank, Lean, Maggie, Willie, Georgia,  
Jacob, and Aby; Mabel Curtis; the Ferguson children—  
Sadie, Lulu, Estella, Willie, Fred, and Lizzie; Elmer and

Roy Foster; Ralph and Robert Glenn; Elgar and Mabel  
Hockett; Lemuel Newcomb; Claude and Horace  
Osborne; the Pomeroy's—Charles, Alice Henry, Mary,  
and Emma; the Persingers—George, Etta, Delia, May;  
the Rupert's—Frank, Charlie, Sadie Eddie, and George;  
Charles and Myrl Stewart; Renny and Ella Foust.

Here is also a record of a special meeting. A.H. Poole  
was Mrs. Hazle Hanzlick's grandfather.

### Record of Special District Meeting.

A Special Meeting of Joint School  
District 26 & 27 Counties of Jewell & Republic  
State of Kansas was duly summoned to call at  
the House of C. H. Hanzlick an adjourned  
to the house of C. H. Hanzlick on the  
fifteenth day of Dec 1875 at 3 o'clock  
P.M. (Director in the chair) for the  
purpose of electing officers for balance of the  
year. A. H. Poole appointed clerk of meeting.  
The object of the meeting as stated in  
the Notice was to organize by the Chairman  
& H. Poole was elected. Clerk for the  
ensuing year. C. H. Stewart was  
elected Director and James Hodge  
elected Treasurer.  
Motion made & carried  
that C. H. Stewart disburse 5000.00  
and cut suitable for more than month  
for fifteen dollars.  
motion made and carried that we  
have four months school  
meeting adjourned  
A. H. Poole clerk

Miss Lydia E. McKay taught from Sept. 13, 1909 to  
March 25, 1910 with a total of 41 pupils They are as  
follows: Edith and Leonard Rupert; Ethel and Roy Weir,  
Effie, Nora, Ella, and Joe Osborne; Olive and Nellie  
Ferguson; Edna, Mary, Hazel, Lydia, Edwin and Rose  
Hammond; Claude and Clyde Boyles; Ellen, Carl,  
Clarence, and Elva Swanson; Lois, Marie, Charley and  
James Figgins; Pearl and Allen Barnhart; Jay Foster;  
Wilda and Ruth Glenn; Mabel, Dwight and Mayme  
Dahlman; Clell Boyd; Elmer Thomas; Marie Stanley;  
Vila Sisson; Muriel and Tom Lowe; Charley Billings.

By 1915-1916, the attendance had dropped down to 13.  
The teacher was F.W. Bettis. Pupils were as follows:  
Archie Persinger, Floyd Wyman, Irene Kackley, Ralph  
Wyman, Mable Swanson, Fern Osborne, Cleo Osborne,  
Christina Hammond, Harold Wyman, Oscar Swanson,  
LaVerne Standley, Clarence Swanson, Carl Swanson.

In 1930, Miss Mary L. Gritten was the teacher. Her  
pupils were: Leah and Luella Acree, Coy and Willard  
Boyles, Ardith, Curtis, Evelyn, John and May Godsey,  
Duane and Willetta Larkins, Barton Osborn, Bethel  
Roper, Lillian and Thelma Smith, Frank Thomas,  
Dorothy Weir, Dulcyce Ferguson, Edwin Persinger,

Norman and Harlan Williams.

The last register to be found was 1948-1949 with Mrs. Harriet Boyles as the teacher. There were only four pupils: Judy Nystrom, Russell Hendriksen, Gerald Nystrom, and Janell Nystrom. The board members were Ethel Hendriksen, D., R.G. Nystrom, C., Clarence Nelson.

At the annual school meeting April 14, 1950, motion was made to vote for annexation to consolidate with Courtland. Motion carried.

#### DISTRICT 66 - EXCELSIOR SCHOOL

Ten miles north and one mile east of Belleville was Excelsior School District 66. Here we have an aerial photo of it which was taken in 1964. It sits on the northeast corner of Section 14 in Liberty Township. The organized District 66 on March 18, 1872.



On March 18, 1872 these men were elected to the offices of the schoolboard— Z. J. Taylor, B. E. Congron and B. Hays. In 1894, J. R. Wolford of Chester was hired to teach for nine months at \$40. The board at this time was H. W. Farr, W. F. Whitney and J. L. Neville.

Miss Iva L. Kirk taught Excelsior School in 1915-16 with fifty pupils, which must be some kind of a record! They were: Orville Brown, Elta Burton, Violet, Roy, and Deward Chick; Alice and Alma Farr; Ervin and Guilia Huckins; Gerald Huckins; William and Clara Jeffries; Charles and Carrie Jenkins; Edith and Henry Kapperman; Florence and Cleo Knobel; Rosa, Kitty, and Archie Larking, Alice McPeak, David, Alice, and Eleanor Randels; Cecil Shrader; Fred, Inez, Floyd and Myrtle Thompson; Arthur Jungch; Pearl, Goldie, Wilder and Howard Young; Foyd, Lisle and Lester George; Ray, Moretta, Erla and Inez Moxham; Lucy Young; Clara Pieschke; Oma Chick; Doyall and Loyall Nicholson; Robert and Richard Mitchell; Guilia and Twila Curtis.

According to the 1945 Directory for the Public Schools. Mrs. Hazel Mulch had an enrollment of only three pupils. The Board Members were: George E. Burton, Mrs. Clara Ray and Henry Blecha. All addresses were Chester, Nebr. as this school is only two miles south of the State Line.

The schoolhouse was built by Frank Klingman, the father of William and Katie Klingman Jeffries.

Grace Naylor writes that she taught Excelsior for six years 1952-58. She sends the following pictures.



1955-Back Row L to R Karen Woodside, Rose Mary Woodside, Laura Ann Naylor. Middle Row—Kathleen Horak, Wayne Woodside, John Allen Naylor, Barbara Wendling, Janet Horak, Janice Blecha. Front Row—Bonnie Burton, Lorraine Woodside, Neil Wendling, Pamela Burton, Kathy Woodside, Anita Weary. (Giving the Flag Salute).



Spring 1954—The "Hula Dancers" for the program number in Munden on Achievement Day. L. to R.— Anita Weary, Kathleen Horak, Janet Horak, Karen Woodside, Janice Blecha, Barbara Wendling, Carolyn Kapperman, and Pamela Burton. Seated in front with their instruments Wayne Woodside and John A. Naylor.

Carolyn Holly of Narka taught this school during its last term. Her pupils were Denise, Debra, David, and Douglas Mathiesen; Rita, and Delvin Blecha; Betsy and Nancy Eickman; Mona and Melinda Derowitsch; Gayleen Wendling; Mary Eickman; and Charles Vieselmeyer. The board at this time was Erskine Eickman, Max Derowitsch, and Henry Blecha. It was voted to give the schoolboard authority to dispose of the school and property as they deemed best.



Mrs. Frank Larkins shared with us this 1894-95 school picture of Excelsior School pupils with J.R. Welford, the teacher. There are 55 boys and girls: Back row, left to right - , Edwin G. Currier, William Huckins, Bertie Jenkins, Viva Gravatt, Della Gravatt, Alta Chick, Mattie Randels, Lizzie Jenkins, Zula Randels, , Ada Randels, , Esther Mitchell.

Middle row: , Frances Jenkins, , Alta Farr, , Chick, Arthur Farr, , Elsie Huckins, Myrtle Huckins, Charlie Randels, , Chick, , Chick, Leona Larkins,, Fred Mumm, Anna Mumm, Ed Mumm, , Will Mumm Maggie Larkins.

Front row: Roy Jenkins, , , Royal Burton, Ole Burton, , , , Waive Farr, , , Ida Randels , , , Mabel Jenkins,

Dare to do right! Dare to be true!

You have a work that no other can do;

Do it so bravely, so truly, so well,

Angels will hasten the story to tell.

Dare to do right! Dare to be true!

Other men's failures can never save you;

Stand by your conscience, your honor, your faith;

Stand like a hero, and battle till death.

George L. Taylor

The heights by great men reached and kept,

Were not attained by sudden flight;

But they, while their companions slept,

Were toiling upward in the night.

Longfellow.

#### GRADATIM

Heaven is not reached at a single bound,  
But we build the ladder by which we rise  
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,  
And we mount to its summit round by round.

I count this thing to be grandly true:  
That a noble deed is a step toward God—  
Lifting the soul from the common clod  
To a purer air and a broader view.

We rise by the things that are under our feet;  
By what we have mastered of good and gain;  
By the pride deposed and the passion slain,  
And the vanquished ills that we hourly meet.

We hope, we aspire, we resolve, we trust,  
When the morning calls us to life and light,  
But our hearts grow weary, and ere the night  
Our lives are trailing the sordid dust.

We hope, we resolve, we aspire, we pray,  
And we think that we mount the air on wings  
Beyond the recall of sensual things,  
While our feet still cling to the heavy clay.

Only in dreams is a ladder thrown  
From the weary earth to the sapphire walls;  
But the dreams depart, and the vision falls,  
And the sleeper wakes on his pillow of stone.

Heaven is not reached at a single bound,  
But we build the ladder by which we rise  
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,  
And we mount to its summit round by round.

J. G. Holland



In this last year the children were in these grades: Front row, left to right - Melinda Derowitsch, grade five; Rita Blecha, Grade four; Becky Eickman, grade five; Douglas Mathieson, grade two; Denise Mathieson, Grade one; Jeff Derowitsch, kindergarten.

Back row: Nancy Eickman, grade six; Mona Derowitsch, grade seven.; Mary Eickman, grade six; Debra Mathieson, grade six; Gayleen Wendling, grade eight; David Mathieson, grade six; Charles Vieselmeyer, grade six; Kelvin Blecha, grade seven.

In the back is the teacher Carolyn Holly, who shared her picture.

Because of Excelsior's location it has been used in various ways. Students from nearby districts recall taking eighth grade exams here. For many years the Rose Creek 4H Club has had meetings here. At the present time this 4H Club and the county are responsible for the maintenance of the building and property, as all the meetings are held there. After outliving its use as an educational facility, the schoolhouse still is used by various groups as a community center by courtesy of the district and the County Commissioners of Republic County Cribbage contests, E. H. U. meetings are known to be held here, and many nights of square dance practice.

Pictures courtesy of Mrs. Frank Larkins, Mrs. Art Wendling and Mrs. George Naylor.

#### DILLEHAY SCHOOL NO. 67

The Dillehay school district No. 67 (shows District 76 on the Township map, 1884) was formerly a part of the large school district No. 5. A meeting was held Mar. 20, 1872 at the home of J.H. Ranney and the Board members chosen were: W.H. Willoughby, J.H. Ranney and E.A. Willoughby. A school was built in 1872 and John Clark was the first teacher. Location is not known and school was taught there in 1873. In 1878 a school house was build on the southwest corner of the northeast quarter of Section 10, township 4, range 1 west. The schoolboard members were Roadrick, Daly and Cleveland. The first term of school

started Dec. 1, 1879. C.A. Babbitt, the teacher received a salary of \$16.66 per month for a school term of twelve weeks,

In 1887 it was voted that the property of District 67 be advertised for sale, and a new site be selected for a school building. The schoolhouse and contents were auctioned off at the following prices: Schoolhouse-\$59.50; large stove-\$10.00; small stove-\$2.50; fifteen seats- \$15.00; table-50 cents; bucket-20 cents; broom-5 cents.



In 1887 it was voted to erect a schoolhouse on one acre of the A.R. Dillehay, Sr. farm, on the N.E. quarter of Section 10, township 4 S, range 1 west. This acre cost \$25.00. The schoolhouse was built just 1 mile east of the original school building. The first teacher in the new schoolhouse was C.E. Costolo, with a seven month term of office. In 1894-95 Anna Howard was the teacher.

Miss Maude McNemar was the teacher in 1904-05 and serving on the school board were: I.M. Lindamood, M. D. Houdek, and John Kalivoda.



At the Dillehay School in 1915 were these young people: Elmer Anderson, Arthur Cleveland, Alvis Dillehay, Ethel Anderson (Lisher), Edna Cleveland (McHugh) and Esther Lundgren. (Courtesy of Helen Dillehay).

That school term of 1915-16, Miss Vera B. Dugger had 31 pupils: Edward Houdek; Alice, Elmer, Ethel



Anderson; Esther Lundgren; Eddie and Agnes Anderson; Ernest Houdek; Herbert Lundgren; Florence Cleveland; Bedford Houdek; Bart Kalivoda, Emanuel Lundgren, Earnie Anderson, Helen Kalivoda, Alma Kellar, Joe and Anthony Dillehay, Ada Lisher, Ruby and Alma Lindamood; Grace, Clarence, Charles and Estella Cleveland; Ralph Lisher; Reuben Longren, Edan Kellar, Eldora and Byron Lindahl; and Lola Trimble.

Twelve years later it is interesting to note that Ethel



Anderson was the teacher (1927-28) and these were the pupils that year: Gilbert Lundgren, Byron Lindahl, Daphne Johnson (Trimble), Alvina Jarrett (Fisher), Claud Johnson, Marcella Kalivoda (Dolezol), Nina Jarrett (Kelly), Lila Dillehay (Cibolski) and Mary Lou Johnson (Ryser).

School Souvenirs for 1918-1919 and also 1919-1920 when Anna May Zavodsky was the teacher show the Board Members to be Frank Kalivoda, L. Lundgren, and G.D. Lisher the first year. The next year Mr. Lisher retired and E.E. Dillehay was the new member.

Pupils for 1918-19 were: First Grade-Gladys Cleveland, Dewayne Trimble, Dewayne Lisher, Donald Trimble, William Trimble; Second Grade-Eleanor Dillehay, Leland Lindahl, Ruby Anderson, Lilly Thiemann; Third Grade-Annie Cleveland, Bertha Lisher, Byron Lindahl, Elnora Houdek, Ruby Thiemann, Lola Trimble, Viola Trimble; Fourth Grade-Estella Cleveland, Reuben Lundgren, Ralph Lisher; Fifth Grade-Eldora Lindahl, Clarence Cleveland, Charles Cleveland, Anthony Dillehay; Sixth Grade-Ada Lisher, Joe Dillehay, Helen Kalivoda, Ernie Anderson, Emanuel Lundgren; Seventh Grade-none; Eighth Grade-none.

Pupils for 1919-20 were: None in First Grade; Second Grade-William Trimble; Third Grade-Leland Lindahl Byron Lindahl, Gilbert, Lundgren, Bertha Lisher, Ruby Anderson, Viola Trimble; Fourth Grade-Eleanor Dillehay, Elnora Houdek, Kermit Lindahl, Ralph Lisher; Fifth Grade-Reuben Lundgren; Sixth Grade-Anthony Dillehay, Clarence Cleveland, Eldora Lindahl; Seventh Grade-Helen Kalivoda, Joe Dillehay, Ernie Anderson, Emanuel Lundgren, Ada Lisher; Eighth Grade-Grace Cleveland.

Miss Zavodsky's first year at Dillehay shows no seventh or eighth grade, while the second year she had no first grade, but did have seventh and eighth grades.

Names come and go which would indicate there were families moving in or out of the district.

#### A Happy Vacation

Here's wishing a happy vacation  
To each of my boys and girls,  
May it bring you none of life's sorrows  
And all of its blessings and joys.

#### Good-Bye and God Speed

Just a parting thought we give to the past  
Its troubles and pleasures that could not last,  
Then a smile and a handclasp — it's parting indeed,  
But Friendship is lasting - "Good-bye and God speed.

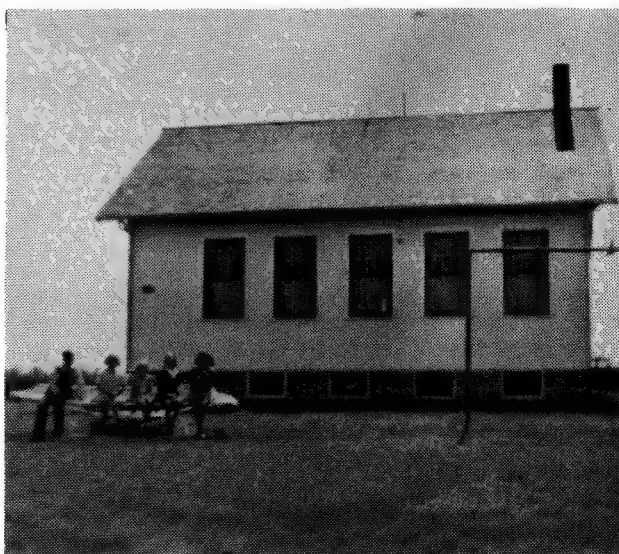
In the spring of 1955 the Dillehay school had its last customary basket dinner. It was the last country school in Elk Creek township to close its doors. In 1958 Dillehay school district was discontinued and annexed to Agenda Grade school District 113, after having had school for 80 years.

The last teacher at Dillehay was Mrs. Lela German with only five pupils on the roll: Gary Barton, Marilyn Krob, Billy Howley, Faye Anderson and Ronnie Krob. Acting as director of the Board was Anthony Dillehay, as clerk was R.K. Fox and as treasurer was Edward Krob.

On August 12, 1958, the notice of the sale of school property was posted for Sept. 19, 1958 at which time \$460.40 was the total received from the sale. The same Board, with the exception of the clerk Bedford Houdek, served for the disorganization of the district.

#### DISTRICT 68—IDA SCHOOL

On March 16, 1872, Ida School was organized although the early town of Ida was begun about 1867 with these Board members: T.M. Sturgeon, E.E. Monroe, and Wm. Lugenbeel. According to L.G. Ramsbottom, the town prospered until about 1885 when its hopes for growth were extinguished. The Burlington Railroad bi-passed Ida and went to Hubbell, Nebr., and then many businesses moved there also. Later, the Rock Island Railroad came through and widened the right-of-way at Ida so that side-tracks



could be put in for Ida. Like so many other early towns, Ida seemed to have fulfilled its purpose in time. The remaining buildings moved to either Hubbell or Munden. The Odd Fellows Hall was moved to Munden in 1888 and then in 1896 was destroyed by fire. The School of Ida served many years until it was annexed to Munden District. The schoolhouse was moved there and is still used as the band room. It was located two miles north and two east of Munden in the northwest corner of Sec. 25, most of the land being in Rose Creek Township.

Orel M. Davidson, of Webber, Kansas taught Ida in 1941-42 when enrollment had decreased to five: Norval Dean Mulch, Violace Graves, Shirley Mulch, Patty Mulch and Lorene Shulda. Note the changes that had taken place in modernizing the school as compared to the earlier picture in 1905. It was the three windows on each side, a front hall, and a lovely belfry. The new school has the full basement, five windows and no front hall or entrance.

By the courtesy of Mrs. Anna M. Kelly (Anna Torbert) we were loaned this picture of Ida School pupils and teacher about 1900. The teacher, Miss Bertha Baker-Jones was a sister of Roy Baker's whom many will



remember.

As nearly as she can recall they are: Back row, left to right, Lottie Beigler, Granville (Toot) Burchett, a boy, Bertha Handley, Mabel Bobenhouse, Inez Mitchell who lived at the Ramsbottoms, Ernie Woodside, Frank Burchett, Iva Woodside, Glenn Ramsbottom, Hazel Ward, Merle Ramsbottom, Miss Bertha Baker - teacher.

Middle Row: Beginning with the boy behind the little boy standing- Ralph Handley, Willie Passage, Roscoe Sprague, James Torbert, Myrtle Ward.

Front Row: seated left to right: Joetta Wiles, Anna Torbert, (standing) a visitor Floyd Handley, Pearl Handley, Ina Wiles, Nora Beigler, Irma Sprague, Nina ?

According to the school souvenir for Ida School in 1905 when Mr. Walter Fickel was the teacher, the Board Members were: H.G. Torbert, clerk; Jas. Ramsbottom, treasurer; and A.A. Wiles, director. You will notice the shutters on the schoolhouse are solid boards for protection of the windows in case of storms. There is no screen over the windows.

The pupils in the picture are: front row, left to right; Osie Burchett, Howard Torbert, Willie Burchett, Ross Handley, Mildred Mulch, Albie Dejmal, Ina Wilds, Pearl Handley, Joetta Wilds, a girl, a girl, Anna Torbert, Daisy Woodside, a girl, Floyd Handley, Omar Winterhaven, Elias Mulch and Carl Torbert.

Back row, left to right: Mr. Walter Fickel - teacher, Cora Torbert, Ralph Handley, Nora Mulch, Mabel

Bobenhouse, Granville Burchett, Myrtle Ward, James Torbert, Bertha Handley, Rena Woodside, Ernie Woodside, Glenn Ramsbottom, Hazel Ward, Ivy Woodside, Jerry Dejmal, Merle Ramsbottom, Willie Mulch.

Others listed on the souvenir, but Anna Kelly could not identify, or they were absent, are: Willie Burchett; Maud, Evelyn, Harold and Carl Losey; Alice, Margaret and Dehlia Marline; Mary and Anna Vicera; Wayne and Irma Sprague.



In 1916-17 Miss Helen Saip taught Ida School and she has let us use this picture: Back row- left to right are: Twila Sellars, Elsie Nemec (Horak), the teacher Miss Saip, Myrtle Ramsbottom, Charlie Moshlam, Richard Moshlam, Arthur Moshlam, Elsie Polak, Esia Rood. On the front row is Raymond Mulch and she is not sure of others.

It is reported that the wedding of Miss Bixler and James Ramsbottom, Sr. took place in this early Ida School.

In 1894 the school board members were: W.R. Crum, C.W. Hoover and James Ramsbottom. The teacher was Emma Adamson of Narka. Mary O. Lugenbeel of Hubbell was the eighth grade graduate that year. It is interesting to note that it was not until 1908 that the system of grades one to eight became a part of our educational development. Until that time, graduates had to pass



examinations to determine when they graduated. Of course, examinations were still a part of graduation long after the graded system was introduced.



After the wedding of James Ramsbottom, Sr., another generation went to school here and we note the son of Glenn Ramsbottom (who was the son of James, Sr.) is in school at Ida: from left to right these boys are: Orie Willis, Arthur Molzahn, Luther Willoughby, Ray Mulch, Frank Homolka, Rudolph Polak, Ernie Polak, Bruce Willoughby, Charlie Homolka, Ival Ramsbottom and Ernest Willoughby.

In 1917, Ida School was closed because of the "flu" epidemic. These dates were recorded - closed October 9th and opened October 31st; closed again December 6th and opened December 30th.

S.V. Westrick who taught District 68 in 1908- 09 writes, "Those who have been promoted to the 9th grade



must not start beyond Percentage page 207 in arithmetic

regardless of course of study, for it will be impossible for them to do the work which they will get farther on. Also poor in geography". This was the vision of one teacher at the beginning of the "graded system"- the weakness being that material might be omitted when a pupil is promoted to the next grade. The ungraded system of long ago had its strong points.

In 1925 the old school building was replaced with a more modern building which included a basement.

Foster W. Street was the last instructor hired by District 68. The three pupils were: Jim Mulch, Gary and Marvin Houdek. The Board members were Ernest Kvasnicka, Joe Fiala and Charles Houdek in 1950-51. Ida was then disorganized.

#### LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT 69

Lake School was located 1 mile west and 2 north of Republic or ¼ mile south of Lake Cemetery. It included Sections 13, 14, 23, 24, (15, 22, east of river) T1 — R5 (Big Bend) and W½ Sections 18, 19, T1 — R4. (Washington Township).

This district was organized March 28, 1872 with the following elected as the school board: Wilson Smith, Frank E. Thompson, and Albert Hough.

In 1904-05 Ella M. Smith of Republic taught this school from 7 months for \$40 per month. Edgar Rickel of Republic graduated from the eighth grade in 1905-06. The teacher was Jessie Elsey of Republic who taught 8 months at \$50. During the term 1906-07 Lulu Patterson taught thirty-two students for eight months. In this school term it was noted that quite a few students moved in March, several quit school and there were many absent marks. Every school had these very same problems during that era. Lulu Patterson wrote beautifully. Other teachers who taught this school were Mable Tilley, Elva Salisbury, Bessie M. Gardner, Gertrude Dick, Mary Mitchell and others.



Kamp Charles taught this school for eight months in 1912-13 and had these students: Ina and Lula Landreth; Irvin Steinbrink; Dorthy and Ollie Clark; Lloyd, Goldie and Neva Elliot; Lloyd and Velma Ocobock; Ethel Landreth; Marvin Grim; Harold Ocobock; Nina Fisher; Earl Heisz; Clarence Sisson; Leonard Clark; Edward Heisz; Glen and Ida Elliott; Herbert and David Eberly; Arthur and Ray Heisz; Ed and Elmer Steinbrink; Sylvia Jessie, Leslie, Flossie, and Velma Landreth; Carl Clark; Viola Sisson and Ruby Sundine. In Sept. 1913-14 it seems

that Celie Denoyer taught twenty pupils and Clara Muth had nineteen students that same year. Records show that both teachers taught the following year also just exchanging the number of pupils taught.

Picture taken in 1948 at Lake School. Mrs. Muriel Tallent, Teacher.

Bottom to top of slippery slide: Joyce Parker, eighth grader; Myrna Duval, seventh grade; Dana Owens, eighth grade; Janet Freed, eighth grade; Edward Owens, second grade; Kenneth Fischer, first grade; Larry Freed, fourth grade; Donald Parker, eighth grade.



Lake School 69 pictures taken in 1947, Mrs. Muriel Tallent, teacher.

Schoolhouse and Dana and Eddie Owens. Dana was a seventh grader and Eddie (Edward) was a first grader.

District 102 Triumph annexed to District 69 in entirety on July 17, 1951.

1955-56 was the last year that school was held at Lake. Sybil Rahe had these students in school: Harold and Kenneth Fischer; Ruth Ocobock; LaDawn Mizar; George, Arlene, and Nadine Eberly. Board members were Don Mizar, Ernest Eitzman and Walter Fischer. District 69 disorganized May 29, 1958 and annexed to District 63 (Republic) the same day.

#### DISTRICT 70 CENTER POST — MT. VERNON

In 1894 Center Post had as its board members Hiram Stenson, L.E. Stone, and W.H. Kiles all of Byron. W.A. Baird of Republic was the teacher that year and the eighth-grade graduate was William B. Vance. The following year E.J. Reichly of Republic received an eighth-grade diploma.

There has been much controversy over the two names of this school. Records did not show why the name was

changed. Two pupils who lived in this district and have had a long time association with this school agreed that the actual name for this school was probably Mr. Vernon District 70. The name Center Post, they think, was only a nickname, but in this case a well-deserved name as the school house actually contained a post in the center of the room.

A former, older student of this school states that she attended Center Post for five years with her two older sisters before the family moved to Republic, Ks. This school was located about 1¼ mi. west from the intersection north of the Washington cemetery. The school was located on a hill on the north side of the road. There was no road leading south at this intersection. As these three girls walked to school they had to cross a dip in the road, or Sand Creek, as the sandy soil in this area offered a poor foundation for a bridge. This branch of Sandy Creek has disappeared completely due to change of course or other reasons. Her father A.B. Evans served on the district board for many years.

Some of the older teachers who taught here were Mable Milner-Mitchell, Bertha Tobin-Simms, John Sherrard and Mary Lacey-Dancey.



Rarely do we see a Souvenir so old having the teacher's picture. Bina Evans has shared it and we pass along information to you. Bertha G. Tobin was the teacher



at Mt. Vernon School from Sept. 5, 1899 to March 28, 1900, serving under the Board: H.B. Vance, director; H.H. Page, clerk; and Alonzo Evans, treasurer. These were her 34 pupils: Loyd Calder, Elbert Calder, George and Ethel Clark, Ida and Grace Davis, Mary and Albina Evans, Claude and Clara Heath, Mary Henderson, Rachel and Hester Mahagan, Laura Stinson, Ruthie and Roy Smith, Ora D. Vance, Mabel Calder, Lily and Paul Carpenter, Hugh Clark, Perry Davis, Lois and Joseph S. Evans, Robert Heath, Alma Huffman, Ross, Arthur and Linzie Mahagan; Emma Stinson, Gertie Smith, Ralph Stewart and Charlie Vance.

In 1908-1909 E.L. Rickel was the teacher for District 70. These pupils attended that year—Bula Campbell; Clara and Larry Farnsworth; Estella McClain; Roy, Merrie, Sonna and Ella Muth; Maude, Josie and Robert Milner; Aaron, Alice, Charley and Parker Price; Lilly Persinger; Fern and Goldie Roberts; Lena and Lottie Swaney; Frank and Byron Willis; Violet and Mable Whitney; Clara Muth; Fern, George, and Raymond Keenon; George Price; Floyd Campbell; Nellie and Jappie George; Ray and Charley Willis; Verna, Elvyn, and Verl Johnson. This school term lasted from Sept. 7, 1908 to Apr. 29, 1909.

Center Post or Mt Vernon, District 70 voted to send pupils to other districts. Eventually it was voted to disorganize and consolidate with other districts in Apr. 1950. The teacher for this last term was Carol Miller of Byron. The board was Grover Smith, Bretta Evans and Ernest H. Kroeger.

Only a small cloakroom was added to the original building. This building was bought by Clarence Rahe and used to remodel their farm home.



The boys at Center Post School: Donald Florea, Paul Davidson, Duane Larkins, Leslie Davidson, Raymond Stewart and Francis Parker.



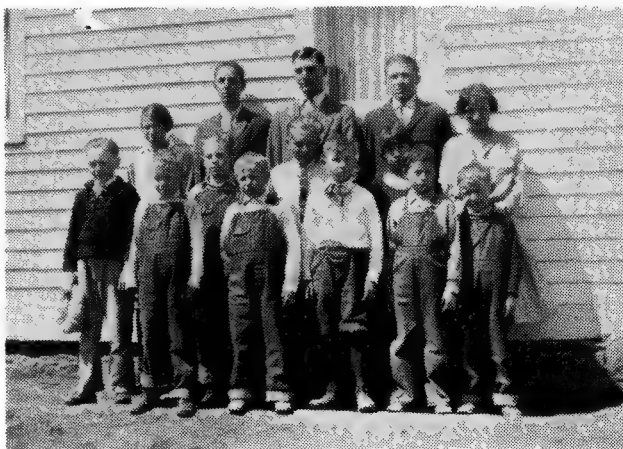
Emma Powers (Mrs. G.V. Fischer, Hardy, Nebr.) has shared some pictures with us of pupils she has in 1932-33 at Mt. Vernon School: Top row, left to right: Alma Florea, and Corabell Stewart; Genevieve Davidson, Verneal Rahe and Eva Taylor. Middle row: M. Donald Florea, Paul Davidson, Duane Larkins, Wilmer Davidson, Raymond Stewart, Francis Parker. Bottom row: Lois Davidson, Willetta Larkins, Leslie Davidson, and Florence Taylor.



The girls attending in that Depression year of 1932-33 were: Alma Florea, Genevieve Davidson - next row - Corabell Stewart, Verneal Rahe and Eva Taylor - next row - Lois Davidson, Willetta Larkins and Florence Taylor.

#### DISTRICT 71—VICTORY SCHOOL

In the memory of Forrest Howard of Flippin, Arkansas, is the sound of the old school bell that called the children in from play. He says he owns that bell and "wants to put it in the museum at Belleville when it is built. The same bell called my mother and my father into the same school". She was Florence Stradley Howard and his father, Floyd Howard, still living and 92 years old.



Mr. Howard loaned us this picture taken at Victory School in 1925. The pupils are, front row: Charles Levendovsky, Herman Kerstine, Leo Kerstine, Alfred

Levendovsky, Arthur Claybaugh, George Kerstine. Middle row: Forrest Howard, Alfred Konovalsky, Edna Claybaugh. Back row: Ruth Claybaugh, Everette Howard, the teacher Joe Shepek, Francis Wenda, Bertha Levendovsky.

Victory School was organized April 5, 1872. It is



located four miles north and four west of Belleville. The first board members were: C. Cuthbertson, director; E. Waterman, clerk and Richard Daugherty treasurer.

The territory had been in District 39, but when the parents were successful in getting a school closer to home, they called it a "Victory".

The school was closed in 1960.

#### DISTRICT 72 - PARK HILL, PLEASANT VALE

On the pages of a book it is difficult to capture the memories and associations of the many schools over the



county, but here is the perfect picture (1930) Here is a beautiful giant elm tree south of the Park Hill School we can see in the background. It is located in the Oscar Linden pasture and furnished shade for many school picnics. In the winter a pond nearby furnished the setting for ice-skating, after which the old round heating stove in the middle of the room thawed out many cold feet in days gone by. (Later, the stove was moved to the northwest corner of the room where it is still used when needed.)

In early spring as days warmed up, marbles were the activity of these boys: Harold Freed, Arnold Moline, Chester Russell, Ralph Standley, and Gerold Linden.

We are indebted to Mrs. Elizabeth Hoffman Russell, wife of the late Sam Russell for this history. She is the



oldest living school teacher (in 1976) that taught at Park Hill. Mr. and Mrs. Sam Russell had one son Carl (who lives in Dist. 72 and he and Dorothy have a family of ten children). Their two daughters are: Virgie (Mrs. Sheriffius living in Calif.) and Ethel (Mrs. Clarence Nelson of Courtland, who has a family of two children).



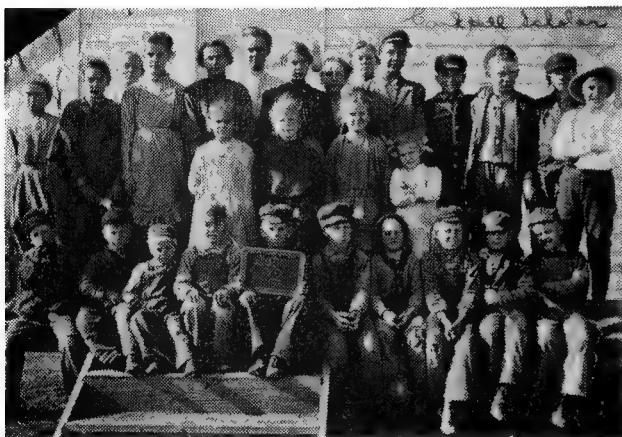
Darell Standley has loaned us this view of Parkhill or Pleasant Vale from the east which gives the feeling of a



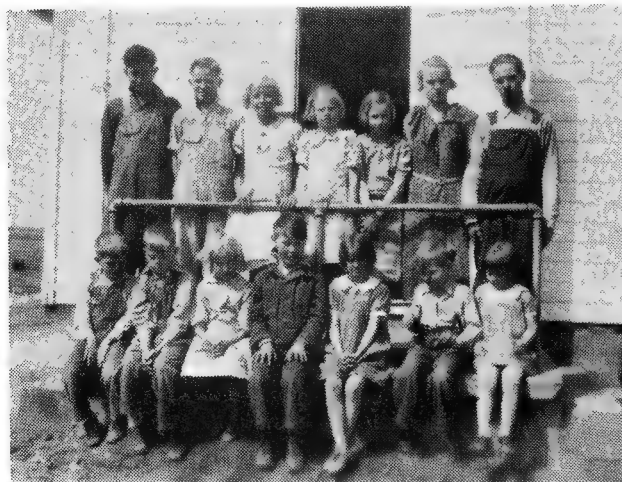
cathedral pointing to the sky.

Following, is this picture taken in 1906-07 of 37 pupils at Dist. 72: Top row: Guy Tucker, Bert Haney, Hilma Linden, Dora Myers, Olive Savanoon, Edna Hobson, Mabel Hobson, Mabel Carlson, Miss Maud Phillips teacher, Buella Hobson, Ellen Swanson, Reuben Carlson, Fred Swanson. Second row: Andrew Moline, Inez Hobson,

Tucker, Blanche Tucker, Signa Isaacson, Anna Moline, Alice Haney, Eda Sallman, Jane Hobson, Hilder Sallman, Richard , Laura Haney, Mc Carlson. Third row: Ida Moline, Ralph Hobson, Selma Sandell, Anna Sallman, Edith Hobson, Clarence Swanson, Louis Sallman, Albert Isaacson, Carl Swanson. Fourth row: Helen Hobson, Eba Sallman, Ruth Sallman, and Walter Sallman were visitors.



By the courtesy of Pauline Anderson we have this 1911-1912 picture of Parkhill children. Back row: Helen Hobson, Ebba Sallman, Ida Moline, Selma Sandell, Anna Anderson (teacher), Annie Sallman, Edith Hobson, Annie Moline, Louis Sallman, Ralph Hobson, Edward Olson, Carl Isaacson, Walter Sallman. Second row: Ruth Sallman, Emma Moline, June Hobson, and Ruth Linden. Bottom row: Vic Anderson, Walter Sandell, Orville Linden, Godfred Carlson, Edgar Isaacson, Carl Sandell, Chas. Hobson, Carl Moline, Lawrence Sallman and Hugh Weir.



In 1936-37, in Pleasant Vale school Miss Hannah B. Hansen taught 14 pupils: First row, Chester Russell, Jimmy Freed, Irene Weir, Phil Weir, Jetty Linden,

Isaacson, Eldine Carlson. Second row: Frankie Standley, Maurice Freed, Maurine Linden, Evelyn Carlson, Betty Isaacson, Pauline Weir, and Lewis Weir.

We are indebted to Mrs. Elizabeth Hoffman Russell who wrote a history of Parkhill in March 1931. She says the boundary of Dist. 72 was established on Aug. 23, 1873 by A. D. Marble, Supt. of Public Instruction of Republic County: Sections 22, 23, 26, 27, S½ of 14, 15, SE¼ 33, N¼ of 34 and all of 13, 26, 25, west of the Republican River in Township 2 S Range 5 West.

Parkhill or Pleasant Vale was organized April 26, 1872. Z. M. Emery, Ephraim Haney, and Joseph Smith were board members. School was first held in the Smith cellar. The district was called Parkhill because Sam Parkhill gave the land.

The first record of the Annual School Meeting was in 1873 at the S. L. Parkhill residence. The first school board was: Joseph Smith, S. L. Parkhill and David Mills. The following year the second annual meeting was held at the Parkhill residence at which time the school board was given power to act as the building committee. They selected the NE corner of Sec. 27. It consisted of one acre bought from Wm. Linden. In 1875 the first schoolhouse was built by Lewis Crouch. The lumber was hauled from Waterville, Kansas. The building was 24 ft. by 18 ft. The interior was not finished so the parents furnished the chairs and benches for their children. In 1878 the house was furnished with desks, seats, blackboards and charts.

The first school was taught by Nellie Kelsey, January to March 1876 for \$10.00 a month. The other teachers in the old school house were:

Josephine Gossett	April 1876 - July 1876
Kate Bowman	March 1877 - July 1877
Lucy Polley	April 1878-July 1878
Carrie Morlan	Jan. 1879 - Mar. 1879
N. G. Angle	Nov. 1879 one month
John Lawrence	April 1880 - June 1880
Wm. Gossett	Feb. 1881-Apr. 1881
Jennie Curtis	Oct. 1881 - Dec. 1881
Cora Houghton	Apr. 1882 - June 1882
Minnette Becher	1882 - 1883 6 months
Lista Whorton	1883-4
May Guthrie	1884 three months in summer
Lista Whorton	1885 three months in winter
Olive Sterling	1885 three months in summer
Charles Talmadge	1886 three months in summer

In December 1885 a special school meeting was called for the purpose of selling the old schoolhouse and building a new one. The old school was sold to Mose Fullen and was moved to his farm in Sec. 22 to be used as a dwelling. It has been remodeled and in 1931 was still being used as a dwelling by A. D. Moline and family.

The present school was built in the summer of 1886 by Wm. Post and Wm. Fuller. The dimensions are 24 ft. by 36 ft. It was completed in time for school in Sept. 1886 with Hankie Workman as teacher. At times, as many as 75 pupils attended Pleasant Vale.

Hankie Workman	1886-88
Albert Curtiss	1888-89
Madge Pomeroy & Laura Moore	1889-90
Hankie Worman	1890-91
Jennie Workman	1891-92
Stella Leonard	1892-93

A. P. Peterson	1893-94
Fanny Juston	1894-95
Clara Morlan	1895-96
Grace Bell	1896-97
Dalton Heaton	1897-98
S. J. Henry	1898-99
Lizzie Hoffman & Etta Arrasmith	1899-1900
Dora Baxter	1900-02
Lizzie Hoffman	1902-03
Wm. Rickle	1903-04
Adella Booze	1904-05
Maud Phillips	1905-06
Florence Barber	1906-07
Alex Davis	1907-08
Mornie Waite	1908-09
Kenneth Thomas	1909-10
Mary Lindquist & Edna Hobson	1910-11
Anna Anderson	1911-12
Oscar Sjöholm	1912-13
Ellen Rosenquist	1913-16
Pearl Hodges	1916-17
Hilma Alestat	1917-18
Mamie Johnson	1918-19
Roy Gile	1919-20
Edith Hobson	1920-21
Alta Sherrill	1921-22
Frances Westin	1922-23
Lillie Palecek	1923-26
Ethyl Dempsy	1926-27
Adeline Sjöholm and Lillie Palecek	1927-28



Frances Gritten	1928-34,
the most years for one teacher	
Margaret Nelson & Ruth Sare	1934-35
Ruth Sare Ebright	1935-36
Hannah Hansen	1936-38
Clara Lauritsen	1938-40
Elma Myers	1940-41
Beula Clark	1941-44
Margie Stanton	1944-45
Lola Gritten	1945-46
Harriet Hatcher	1946-48
Dale Boyles	1948-49
Eldeen Carlson	1949-50

In the year 1950 the school district no longer had enough pupils to have school. Part of it consolidated with

Courtland and part with Scandia. The schoolhouse and acre of land were given to White Rock Township, and are used as a voting place. (1976)

Eda Sallman, in her history, writes that syrup pails were used for dinner pails and one day a tramp took two dinner pails, this "caused a lot of commotion!" she says.

During the blizzard of 1888, when Hankie Workman was teaching in the new building, the teacher tied the pupils to a long tope and took them to the Sam Parkhills home ¼ mile east.

#### DISTRICT 73—KUNKEL

Kunkel School was located a little way south of the NW corner of Sec. 35 - 3 miles south and 3 miles west of the former Cuba high school. It was on the west 60 acres which belonged to Noah Kunkel. This farm was one mile long north and south. The Kunkels lived three-fourths of a mile east of the schoolhouse. Mr. Kunkel received his



Patent on the W½NW¼ and the W½SW¼ on Nov. 20, 1873. On September 5, 1893 he gave a warranty deed to Dist. 73 on one acre of land. On October 15, 1901, he gave a warranty deed to his daughter Fannie B. Walter. (Picture courtesy of Clarence Herrman.)

The idea for the school began in April 1873 and by January 12, 1875 the land included in this district was stated. It is assumed that Mr. Kunkel must have been one of those organizing the school and that it was named for him.

Emma J. Schrock was the teacher Aug. 4, 1873 to October 1873. Her pupils ranged in age from five to seventeen years. They were: Ellie Kunkel, Amanda M. Blunk, Mattie A. Oliver, Agnes M. Fleming, Maggie W. Fleming, Rachel M. Blunk, John H. Blunk, Geo. E. Kidder, Francis Hyer, Mary E. Kidder, Emma B. Cats, Fannie G. Kunkel, Laura Hyer, Hattie Hyer, Lorenzo R. Oliver, Edward E. Oliver, Marion Blunk, Frank Hyer, Geo. R. Williamson, Wm. S. Blunk, Lillie F. Blunk, Mary L. Oliver, Mary N. Blunk, Howard Williamson, Mariah Patterson, M. L. W. Schrock, Ellora M. Schrock, Samantha F. Williamson, Martin A. Powell and Lizzie Powell. Of these thirty pupils, only eleven were past ten years old.

Teachers from 1873 to 1887 were: Emma J. Schrock.

Emma J. Schrock	Aug. 4 - Oct. 1873
Anna S. Schooley	June 22 - Sept. 17, 1874
Bernice Spilman	April 12 - July 1, 1875
Maggie VanNatta	May 1 - Aug. 29, 1876
Bernice Spilman	May 1 - July 31, 1877



J. C. Ranney	Sept. 7 - Nov. 30, 1877 April 15 - Sept. 16, 1878
May Cooley	May 19 - July 14, 1879
Mary Engstrom	April 12 - July 23, 1880
Wm. Frink	Jan. 3 - April 3, 1881
Ida Cory	April 11 - June 6, 1881 Sept. 4 - Oct. 27, 1882
F. C. Parkhurst	Sept. 12 - Nov. 4, 1881 Dec. 5, 1881 - March 24, 1882 Sept. 8, 1884 - Mar. 1885 April 1885 - June, 1885
Lena Eppler	Sept. 14, 1885 - 1886
Dellia Monroe	Nov. 6, 1886 - Mar. 24, 1887
T. P. Harris	Sept. 5, 1887 - Nov. 25, 1887 Nov. 28, 1887 - Feb. 25, 1888 Feb. 27, 1888 - Mar. 24, 1888

It seems no winter terms were held at first. A fall term came in 1877 and a winter term in 1881, after which more months of school were held in winter. Times were so hard during the time Mr. Raney taught that Susie and Mary Blunchard had no shoes (11 to 8 years). John H. Blunk (17) went away to work.

May Cooley's term from Sept. 3, 1883 to Feb. 22, 1884 (not found in the above record) included these pupils: the Blunk children, Lily, Sherman and Aaron; Ivy Cooley, Dora and Ed Powell, the Kelleys, Bernice, Charley, Exie, Leno; Emma Ferris, Ed Burhock, Lou Smith, Annie and James Havel, Adolph Vaski, Elsie and Jesse Patterson; May and Fannie Kunkle; Joseph and Jessie Kolar; Emma Havel, Katie Eppler, Carrie and Lucinda Patterson; Wanda and Mertie Smith and Della Waitly, a total of thirty five children.

T. P. Harris taught four terms (as given above) and in his second term were enrolled: Lucinda, Carrie, Sadie, Herbert and Allie Patterson; Annie Katie, Harvey, Earl and Fred Eppler; Rosa and Minnie Powell; Amanda Smith, Joseph, Eddie, Katie, Mary and Bertie Rhabe; Frankie Blazek, Annie, Otto and Emma Havel; Joseph, Frankie, Freddie and Frank Kolars; Vincent Backret, Frank and Joseph Zeman, Vincent Hraba. For the next term, the Rhabea name was spelled "Hraba". Harvey Eppler was not in school and Edwin Powell and Aaron Blunk were new pupils. The difference in ages was 4 to 27.

In looking through these early and beautifully written registers, the one in 1878, when J. C. Ranney taught, shows the first record of grades given with "0" indicating failure, "1" very poor, "2" poor, "3" fair, "4" good and "5" perfect. Further explanation is given in the first section of the book. Pupils were graded on attendance and on deportment. In a five week term, they were also graded on their recitations and upon two monthly examinations.

This 1892 picture was loaned by Vincent M. Baxa and was the possession of his mother, Ella Baxa. The names of the teacher and the pupils are from the 1892-93 register. Mr. Baxa knows that his mother and father are in the picture. They are Ella Blazek and Vincent M. Baxa, sr., Mr. Chas. Krob is the fourth from the left in the front row. One wonders how such a tiny building held these 41 pupils! The register count was 51. It is probable that the pupils were never there at the same time, so some missed on the day the photograph was taken. From Sept. 5, 1892 to March 25, 1893 the teacher was W. A. Baird. These were the pupils according to their ages in the register: 5-year-olds, Chas. Havel, Flossie Houdek, Chas. Krob, Carrie

Lojka (went 4 days), Chas. Bronsilus, Joe Hess and Ellie Blazek. Six-year-olds, Elmer McKenzie, Ethel Patterson,



Clarence Patterson, A. Blaine Powell, Mart Skocni, Lulu Kinder and Anna Hess. Seven-year-olds, Agnes Houdek, Frances Lojka, Chas. Tweedy. Eight-year-olds, Rosie Havel, Wesley Hess, Minnie McKenzie. Nine-year-olds, Edith Patterson, Allie Patterson, Stella Kinder, Frank Blazek. Ten-year-olds, Stella Baxa, Joe Skocni, Mary Houdek and Tony Haleck. Eleven-year-olds, Joe Baxa, Martha Bronsilus, Otto Havel, Cora Miller, Annie Peterson, Sadie Patterson, Jesse Kinder, Orpha McKenzie, Orville McKenzie and Lee Chapman. Thirteen-year-olds, Mabel McKenzie, Myrtle Powell, Mattie McVey, Tony Houdek, Barbary Baxa. Fourteen-year-olds, Minnie McKenzie, Emphrey Peterson, Rose Powell, Herbert Patterson. Fifteen-year-olds, Albert VcVey, Vincent Baxa, and ages unknown, Annie McVey, Rosa Blazek.



This picture shows the Kunkel School 1898-99 (Courtesy Mr. and Mrs. Emil Tuma) with the pupils taught by Will Sterba: Front row, Bessie Havel Kolman, Anna Hadachek Pentico, Julia Mottl, Frank Krob, Frances Kolbaba, Mary Lojka Rundus, Rudolph Hadachek, Augustine Havel, Agnes Kolbaba, Mary Kouba Tuma (loaned our picture), Henry Kolbaba, Aaron Patterson and two Rehard boys. Middle row: Charles Kouba, a boy, Emma Krob Shepek, John Kouba,

unknown, Mary Kolbaba, Wesley Kolbaba, Mary Kolar, Bill Rehard, Anna Kolar, a boy, Anna Havel Keperta, Henry Patterson, Frances Hadachek, Blanche Houdek Kolar, Charley Krob, Frances Celoud Prymek. Back row: Carrie Lojka Cherney, Rose Hadachek Dixon, Emma Pelstrom, Will Sterba teacher, Frances Lojka Houdek, Flossie Houdek, Tom Celoud, John Kolbaba, Ethel Patterson, Frank Celoud, Eddie Pelstrom. Note the new schoolhouse with shuttered windows, dated 1893 in the name plate. It was built to the northeast of the old one. It is said the new one was built before the old one was torn down. By the turn of the century one window has a shutter missing.

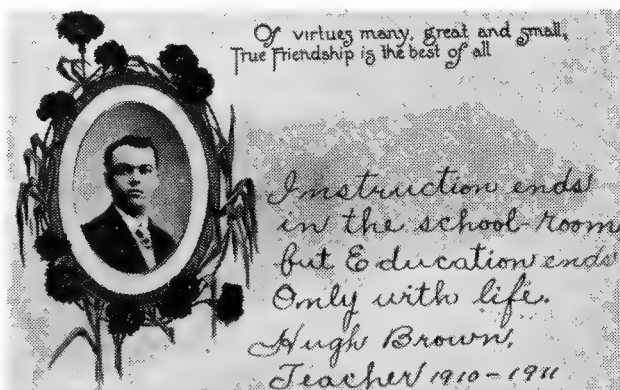
There was an addition on the west built in 1918 by Bill Webb and was used as a cloak room and washroom. By 1928 the windows were shutterless, like most of the homes by that date.

A letter from H. F. Walter of Bendena, Kansas, states: "Mr. H. B. Walter, H. F. Walter's father, taught a number of terms in other schools before coming to teach in Kunkel. Here he taught one year, taking off on Christmas Day 1895 for him and Fannie Kunkel to be married. Fannie also taught several years before she was married and had planned to teach in Kunkel in 1896-97. Her mother became so ill that Fannie didn't teach that year. The Kunkel family lived in Jefferson Township and owned 240 acres minus one acre which he sold to the district."



The teacher and board members in 1904-05 were: Mary Stenger teacher, Mrs. Ethel McVey director, Frank Krob clerk, and H. B. Walter, treasurer. In this 1905-06 picture (courtesy of Mrs. Mary Krasny) are 15 pupils: Front row: Lizzie Kauer Tuma, Albert Stevens, Grace Stephens, Alfred (Chick) Benyshek, John Hadachek. Middle row: Henry Benyshek, Charley Stephens, Augustine Havel, Jennie Hadachek Lahodny, Mary Krob Krasny and Henry Kolbaba. Back row: James Kolars, Ralph (Adolph) Hadachek, Mary Lojka Rundus, Bessie Svojgr Potuzak, Idabel Guffin teacher. Not in the picture were: Stella Benyshek, Anna Hadachek, Agnes Kolbaba, Frank Krob and Matilda Kopsa. (We note that on the front of the picture is written "Kellogg, Wayne, Kansas" who did some amateur photography and taught at that time. His son Myron Kellogg later taught Kunkel.)

Mr. Hugh Brown gave this Souvenir in 1910-11 with his handwriting in the "vertical style" of that time. Mary M.



Havel shares it and the picture below that Mr. Brown had also given them that year.

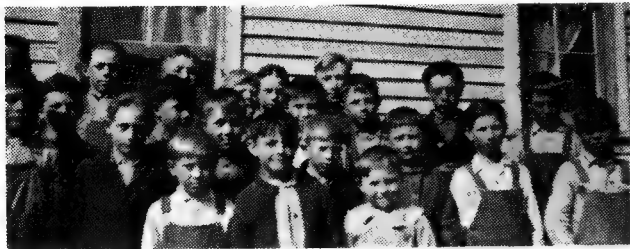


The pupils in the back row are: Helen Hadachek, Lizzie Kauer, Isella Ferris, Asa Ferris, Edd Houdek and the teacher Hugh Brown. Middle row: Willie Hadachek, Frank Kauer, Mary Anthony, Flossie Kauer, Frank Lojka, Jasa Ferris and Frank Houdek. In the front row are: Frances Krob, Ruth Anthony, Betty Havel Klaumann, Frances Houdek Plucar, Daisy Havel, Ella Houdek Kasha, Idella Ferris and Ernest Havel.



So many times we have been reminded of the twenty little froggies that went to school. . . then big frogs they became at last, teaching other little frogs! So it was with Miss Mary Anthony she was a pupil in 1910 and in 1922-23 she is the teacher of eleven little girls: Back row: Emily Houdek Plucar, Miss Mary Anthony, Leona Blazek Baker, Alice Baxa. Middle row: Marie Cousins, unknown, Elsie Havel Klima, Mildred Houdek Klima, Viola Havel

Opocensky. Front row: Blanche Krob Slavik (loaned these pictures), Marcella Blazek and Blanche Kolbaba.



And the teacher of 22 boys: Back row: Joe Kauer, Lodis Havel, Victor Kolbaba, Bill Salsbury, Clarence Wells, Orvil Abrams. Middle row: Tony Krob, Ben Blazek, Bill Krob, Henry Baxa, Edward Kolbaba, Charley Kauer, Henry Kolbaba, Vincent Baxa, Ben Barnett. Front row: Ed Krob, Fred Baxa, Ben Krob, Emil Havel, Charley Houdek, Ben Havel and Jimmy Kauer.



We are indebted to three for this picture who offered it for sharing, Mrs. Viola Havel, Mrs. Blanche Slavik, and Mrs. Magdalena Pachta. Magdalena Baxa Pachta was the teacher in 1924-25 of: Front row: Louise Blazek Green, Lillian Houdek Wolfe, Henry Kolbaba, Ben Krob, Marcella Blazek Tobin, Helen Havel Drapal, Viola Krob Havel. Middle row: Alfonso Baxa, Blanche Kolbaba, Fred Baxa, Viola Havel Opocensky, Ben Havel, Ben Blazek, Edward Kolbaba, Blanche Krob Slavik, Edward Krob, Emil Havel. Back row: Charley Houdek, Elsie Havel Klima, Jimmie Kauer, Charley Kolbaba, Will Krob, Tony Krob, Henry Baxa, Charley Kauer, Lodis Havel, Joe Kauer, Mildred Houdek Klima, and Magdalena Baxa teacher.



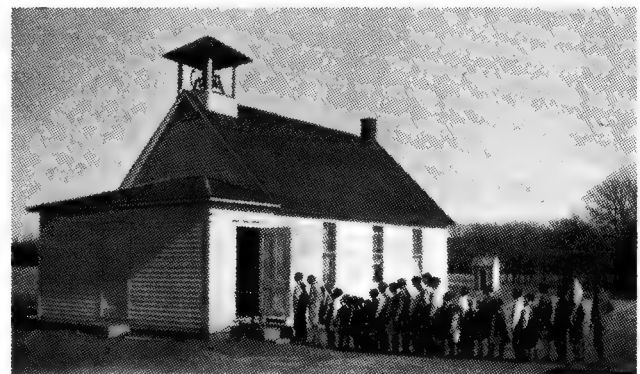
Alfred Waler was the teacher in this 1927-28 picture: Back row: Fred Baxa, Charles Houdek, Edw. Kolbaba, Jimmy Kauer, Will Krob, Ben Krob, Ed Krob. Second row: Alfonso Baxa, Marcella Blazek, Annie Kalivoda Sisson, Blanche Krob Slavik, Blanche Kolbaba, Willie Kauer. Third row: Viola Krob Havel, Lillian Houdek

Wolf, Henry Kolbaba, Rosie Kalivoda Rytych, Emil Havel, Helen Havel Drapal and Vernon Havel. Front row: a visitor, Edmund Baxa, Amelia Kauer Pelesky, Leora Svoboda Havel, Louise Blazek, Rosalie Kolbaba and Irene Blazek Stafford.



It is hard to believe that a bit less than fifty years ago (1928) that Kunkel School had this nice class of 12 in the three upper grades. Charles, Jimmie, Edward, and Will in the back: Blanch Krob, Annie, Marcella and Blanche Kolbaba in the middle and Edward Krob, Ben, Fred and Emil sitting in front.

In the picture below Alfred Walker had the school lined up in an orderly rank after the five-minute bell had rung and it was time to get drinks.



We also get a good picture of the schoolhouse after the addition was built onto it. The landscape shows East Creek winding its way along toward Turkey Creek.



Marie Klima taught Kunkle in 1953-54 and shares this picture of Darrel Krob, Johnnie Krob and Charlene Havel showing their expertise at archery. A merry-go-round in

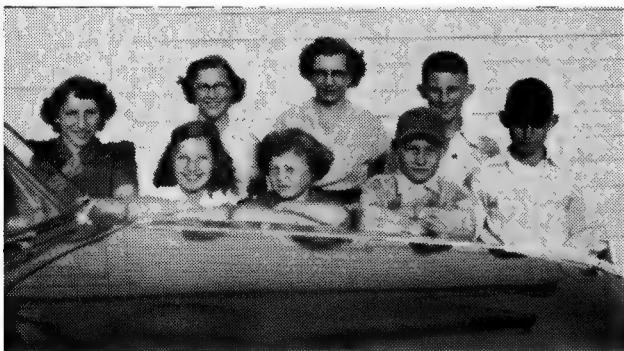


the background suggest another kind of play equipment that became very popular.



The last teacher at Kunkel was Mrs. Olive Fojt in 1954-55. The board members were Emil H. Havel, director; Frank Lojka, clerk; and Tony Krob, treasurer.

Here is a Halloween "home talent" entertainment, typical of a gathering once a month by the patrons of the district. Pupils often participated in the programs. These early community meetings were the forerunner of Parent-Teacher Associations in many schools. (Mrs. Marie Klima shared this picture).



Mrs. Olive Fojt had this picture of her pupils that last year as they admire her car: Back row: Mrs. Fojt, Marilyn Havel, Darlene Krob, Lewis Ray Havel, and Darrel Krob. Leaning on the car are: Karen Havel Baxa, Charlene Havel Heyka and Johnnie Krob.

For the very last day of school in May 1955, a potluck dinner was planned, and then a program prepared by the pupils and teacher was presented outdoors. Mrs. Frank (Krob) Krasny, a former pupil, and her husband



presented their dancing puppets. Mrs. Krasny had carved them out of wood. Other numbers were presented by pupils and by outsiders.

On June 9, 1958, Kunkel was disorganized and the attachment to Dist. 111 agreed by verbal acceptance. The land owners were to be attached to the adjoining district (3 Wayne), if so desired.

#### KUNKEL HOMECOMING APRIL 26, 1953

Just as our book was to go to press Mrs. Emil Havel has found an old "Account Book" in which were found "Ramblings from the pen of the Illiterate Irishman" as Grant Kelly has so humbly named it. We cannot quote all of it, but will give our readers bits and pieces:

"In writing a history of a school district (Kunkel) it must be borne in mind that much valuable information that has not been recorded becomes as the refuse that is carried down by the stream of time and lost in oblivion.

"Sometimes things will stand out like a stormy cloud from heaven fraught with darkness and lightning — of these we will write.

"We are prone to pay more attention to those who have waxed rich and made good financially and are liable to neglect those who are afflicted with poverty and may be as you would say defeated heroes. In this little sketch I will try to be as complete as I can without going too much into detail for I must be as brief as possible.

"Gone are the early settlers, the pioneers of the district, but in many cases the land is now tilled by the grandsons surrounded by all the modern conveniences that exalt and embellish civilized life. They have been proved by a vicissitude of prosperity and adversity.

"Usually at a time like this (homecoming) it is appropriate to tell of those who attended school here and have made good elsewhere. Not only has Kunkel sent forth her full quota of doctors, lawyers, soldiers, teachers, etc. but we are proud to say that so great has been the moral effect of her teachings that she has never produced a murderer, bank robber or outlaw and if the students of all other schools were as law-abiding as ours we would have little use for the jails and penitentiaries that cast their shadows over our beautiful lands.

"We are also proud of those who have continued to make the district their homes. (Mr. Kelly went on to tell of the Charles Krob family, Augustine Havel family, and the Vincent Baxa family — all attended Kunkel, their children, and their children's children.)

"The first meeting of the school district No. 73 met at the home of George Kidder on the 30th day of April, 1872 at two o'clock p.m. and organized by electing Noah Kunkel chairman pro tem. Anderson Oliver was elected director, George Kidder clerk, and C. B. Williams treasurer.

"On motion it was decided to have a three-month school taught the ensuing summer.

"It was moved and carried to open subscriptions to raise money to pay the teacher's wages.

"Cyrus Kidder was hired to begin teaching on the twentieth day of May, 1872 for the sum of \$20.00 a month to be paid on or before the twentieth day of the following August.

"School was held in a part of the George Kidder



residence on the SE¼ of Section 22-3-2.

"Opening day saw 30 pupils ranging in age from 5 to 26: Ellie and Fannie Kunkel; Amanda, Rachel, John, William, Lillie, and Marion Blunk; Emma Catts; Agnes and Maggie Fleming; Mariah Patterson; Mattie, Mary, Lorenzo and Edward Oliver; George E. and Mary Kidder; William and Ellora Schrock; Hattie, Francis, Laura and Frank Hyer; George, Samantha, and Howard Williamson; Martin and Lizzie Powell.

"On the third day of May A.D. 1873 a special meeting was called at the home of James Patterson. The object of the meeting was for the purpose of voting for or against the issuing bonds to build a schoolhouse in the district.

"Twenty-one votes were cast and when counted it was found that twenty-one voted for the bonds. Three hundred fifty dollars worth of bonds were sold. A schoolhouse was built and school began August 4, 1873 in the new house with Emma Schrock teaching 30 pupils for a salary of 20 dollars per month.

"The room was heated by a wood stove; some member of the district contracting to furnish fuel for the term and the wood was corded against the end of the house which proved a blessing when on Thursday, Jan. 12, 1888 Kansas was struck by the worst blizzard in its entire history.

"The teacher F. P. Harris and pupils were forced to spend the night in the school house keeping from freezing by feeding wood into the old stove.

"In 1892 with W. A. Baird teaching the enrollment had increased to 51 which was thought to be too many for the small house. I find no record of its size but to give some idea of its size I will say that for one dollar and fifty cents Herman C. Brunsilius was hired to place it on skids and with one small team of horses pull it to the farm of James Peterson. The present building was completed on August 29, 1893 and at a salary of \$30 per month Lissa Myers was hired to teach the first term beginning Sept. 11, 1893 in the

#### THE SCHOOL TEACHER'S CREED

I believe in boys and girls, the men and women of a great tomorrow; that whatsoever the boy soweth the man shall reap.

I believe in the curse of ignorance, in the efficacy of schools, in the dignity of teaching, and in the joy of serving others.

I believe in wisdom as revealed in human lives as well as in the pages of a printed book, in lessons taught, not so much by example, in ability to work with the hands as well as to think with the head, in everything that makes life large and lovely.

I believe in beauty in the schoolroom, in the home, in daily life and in out-of-doors.

I believe in laughter, in love, in faith, in all ideals and distant hopes that lure us on.

I believe that every hour of every day we receive a just reward for all we are and all we do.

I believe in the present and its opportunities, in the future and its promises and in the divine joy of living.

Edwin Osgood Grover

new schoolhouse...

"On Nov. 29, 1905 a box supper was held and a bell bought with the proceeds. T. P. Teagarden was hired for \$10.88 to build a belfry and since Sept. 6, 1906 the bell of Kunkel has pealed forth its joyous notes to hasten the loitering student to the place of learning."

#### DISTRICT 74—LIBERTY OR DICKERHOOF SCHOOL

Liberty School No. 74 was one of the districts which was Consolidated at an early date - some time between 1907 and 1915. It was organized May 15, 1872 and according to The Republic County Atlas for 1884, was located in Courtland Township, Sec. 20 on the 160 A. farm of G.A. Dickerhoof at the southwest corner. This was one mile south and one mile west of what is now Courtland.

The first Board Members were: W. Stafford, John H. Crane and J. Stuley.

According to the Second Annual Report of Republic County in 1895, Miss Effie Dickerhoof was the teacher and the Board Members were: C.A. Boyd, A.B. Dickerhoof, and John Walter. In 1902-3, Miss Stella Burnett was the teacher and the Board were: A.W. Walter, G.A. Dickerhoof, and Ed Cahill. Then in Co. Superintendent's (Nutter) "Compendium of Information" 1906-7, Liberty School was taught by Miss Effie C. Brown for \$40 per month and a seven-month term. A.W. Walter, G.A. Dickerhoof and J.W. Hodgins were Board Members.

After the district was joined to Courtland in 1908, the buildings were moved to Courtland and made into the residence which was owned by Floyd Nolan, according to Republic County History (1964).

#### DISTRICT 75—JOHN BROWN SCHOOL

On June 3, 1872, John Brown School was organized. Miss Gwendolyn Glasgow relates that when her mother taught here she had a rather harrowing experience one day with an overgrown, advanced-aged bully who had brought a gun to school. She made him put it in her desk and then she sat on the desk all day to keep him from getting it. In after years, he was sent to the penitentiary. We wonder if he were not trying to live up to the name of the school!

We are indebted to Miss Julia Hodge for the above

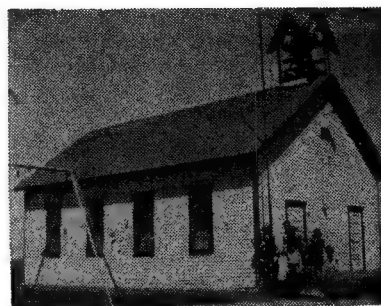


picture. District 75 is located in Courtland Township, Sections 5, 6, 7 and most of 8 and N½ of 18. In White Rock Township, Sec. 31, S½ and SW¼ Sec. 32. The schoolhouse was two miles north and one west of Courtland.

Miss Ona Glasgow (aunt of Gwendolyn's) taught at John Brown School in 1902-3 according to E.E. Baird's "Report of Common Schools" and John W. Chadd, F.H. Hilburn and N. Buntan were the Board Members.

In 1915-16 Miss Euna Arrasmith's "School Directory" shows Herschel Thornberg the teacher of the following pupils who completed the Common School Course: Ward Bettis, Wilbur Hedges, Ona Heisz, and Lillie Stahlman. The following year these completed the course: Stella Hedges, Ardie Jones, Ida Sallman; quite a list for a rural school.

When school was discontinued in District 75, the schoolhouse was sold to R. Stener who moved it into Courtland for his residence.



date in the spring of 1959." The complete book is at the Donald Van Ornam home.

The first schoolhouse was of limestone hauled from White Rock City by Henry Garman. It was built in the SE corner of Sec. 18 at a cost of \$500.00 raised by selling bonds carrying 10 per cent interest. For fourteen years school was held there until a frame school was built 80 rods east of Rosemound Cemetery in 1886 and then in 1901 moved to its last location a little south and across the road west from the cemetery, five miles west and two and one-half miles north of Republic City. The building was sold at auction to Don Van Orman October 5, 1962.

School teaching and romance often cooperated to bring "intelligent young women into a community and hold then as permanent residents. Rosemound School brought many teachers, but a large percentage of them were men. Early day school boards favored men teachers because of disciplinary problems. However, three young ladies came to Rosemound and married into the community. They are Mrs. Harry Sweet, who was Gertrude Dick from Republic; and Mrs. Erwin Sweet, formerly Corabelle Stewart of Republic. In this case, romance came before teaching here. Corabelle almost refused the school fearing folks would think she was "chasing" Erwin, as they were going together at the time. The third young lady who came and stayed was Lola Gritten, now Mrs. Ward Aurand."

The first teacher at Rosemound was Henry Leigh

#### DISTRICT 76—ROSEMOUND SCHOOL

In this Bicentennial year of 1976 there might be something significant in District 76! We, the people of Republic County salute you as a model for us to look to of the educational progress, typical of our area! More than a 1,000 youngsters learned their three R's at Rosemound. None, so far as is known turned out "bad". A few have achieved fame and fortune. School terms have changed from the original three months to nine months showing that school patrons were anxious to provide the very best they could buy. In 1958 Rosemound was closing with some regrets, yet knowing that it had filled a need and done so with dignity and distinction. With eyes on the future, Rosemound was ready to accept change if it provided for a free and informed citizenry.

Mrs. Ward Aurnad has kindly sent us clippings from the history of District 76. Richard E. Bucknell "farmer and home-grown philosopher and poet, contributed many things to the Hardy community. One of his projects was a seventy-year history of Rosemound from 1872 to 1942. Donald Van Ornam took up the pen and brought it up to



**ROSEMOUND SCHOOL 1896-1897 TERM.** Front row left to right, William J. Straub, Kate Straub (Wurtz), Etta Straub (Wurtz), Dolly Straub (Steier), Tom Hurley, Tom Powell, Anastasia Hurley (Goin), Kate Hurley (Reinhart), Johanna Hurley (Sharaden), Ella Hurley (Levendofsky), Fielding S. Sweet, Mildred Aurand (Steier), Lenora Aurand (File); Back row: J. S. C. Spickerman (teacher), Archie Bates, Alice Powell, Luella Powell (Myers), Edith Powell, Julia Hurley (Gritten), James Hurley, Ray Gillilan, Gardner Bates, John Bucknell, Carl Bates, Harry M. Sweet.

(later a Hardy banker), in the fall of 1872, before the town of Hardy existed.

1873 J.C. Price 3 months \$35.00  
1874 Hannah Young Chrysler 3 months \$20.00  
1875 Anna Hollern  
1876, a century ago, times were hard. The record says, "The school house is in bad order and no money to pay the teacher."  
Nancy J. Dunday 3 months \$20.00  
1877 Clarissa Harvey 3 months \$25.00  
1878 Mattie Campbell 3 months \$22.00  
1879 Lou Chrysler  
1880 Nelson Chrysler  
1881 Jennie Stover 8 weeks \$22.00  
(became Mrs. James H. Fair of Hardy)  
1882 Lou Chrysler  
1883 Bessie Bending taught spring and fall terms for \$27.50. Bending family lived on the Vic Harvey farm.  
1884 Emma Whetstone "sharpened the scholars up considerably" at \$30.00 per month.  
1885 John Plotner 7 months \$35.00  
1886 In the new frame schoolhouse Mrs. John Scott (aunt of Guy Scott) taught for six months.  
1887 Charles Reynolds taught the first none-month term.  
1888 Pearl Harvey - Board members: James Gillilan, George M. Powell and Tom Powell.  
1889 George Earl Miller - "He was a great scholar and public speaker- a true gentleman."  
1890 U.S. Eddy (later a Republic merchant) 7 mo. \$35.00  
1891 Robert J. Gillilan  
1892 Harry F. Wright (later a Hardy merchant) son of "Preacher Wright"  
1893 Emma Green of Bostwick taught spring term. Fannie Fuston taught fall term. A dry summer and crop failure.  
1894 J.H. Willis lived in Hardy and walked to school each day for seven months.  
1895 Third year of crop failures. Retta McPherron - \$28.00  
1896-97 J.S.C. Spickerman from Missouri "taught some of the unruly boys a respect for discipline." (They look very well-behaved in the above picture!)  
1898 Jennie Yates 7 months  
1899 C. Archie Stone (later a Hardy carpenter)  
1900 Edna Polley  
1901 Lavinia Garman, Mary Lacy and Jessie James each taught a few weeks. The schoolhouse was moved to its last location that summer by P.E. Lashley. The District split and the east part became the Hurley District. Its building was carried away in the 1935 flood and later brought back. One more term was held and a tornado demolished it, so school was discontinued at Hurley.  
1902 Mamie Albertson taught twenty-six students  
1903 Raechel Burge  
1904 Mamie Albertson - salary \$45.00  
1905 Eva Dick (later Mrs. Fred Maxey of Superior)  
1906 Velma Lowe (Mrs. Ralph Angle) 6 mos. \$40.00  
1907 Bessie Gardner 7 months 10 students  
1908 Gertrude Dick 6 months \$41.00  
1909 Laura Teagarden \$45.00  
1910 Mildred Aurand (Mrs. Pete Steier, Republic) 7 months  
1911-12-13 Eva Garman (Mrs. L. T. Peterson) 7 mos. \$47.00 to \$53.00  
1914 Hattie Garman (Mrs. Max Bixby) \$50.00  
1915 Sanna Muth (Mrs. J.C. Shellhase and Mrs. C.C.

Gregersen) \$55.00  
1916 Dora Levendofsky  
1917 Ethel M. Charles 8 mos.  
1918 Thelma Gossard, Webber 8 mos. \$65.00  
1919-20-21 Thelma Peck (later Mrs. Art Williams, Superior) salaries of \$70.00 to \$85.00 to \$100.00 a mo.  
1922-23 Abbie Gayle Palmer of Webber  
1924 Zella Stafford 8 months  
1925-26 Thelma Knapp, daughter of Guy Knapp, was the teacher.  
1927 Shirley McKinney of Webber  
1928 Lucille Leonard began 8-month term, completed by Abbie Gayle Palmer (Mrs. Abbie Swoveland, Burr Oak)  
1929 through 1934 Miss Pearl Mullins of Mankato, who holds the record for most terms taught. She gave "Universal Satisfaction."  
1934 A Rosemound Homecoming was celebrated on Nov. 9. Former teachers present were: John Plotner, Harry F. Wright, Mrs. Mamie Imhoff, Mrs. Art Williams, Mrs. L.T. Peterson, Mrs. Hattie Bixby, Mrs. Gertrude Sweet, Mrs. Mildred Steier. Guests of honor: Cash C. Hobson, George Osborne and Mrs. W.E. Myers, all having attended the first term of school in 1872. George M. Powell was recognized for having served most of the last 50 years on the school board!  
1935-36 Treva Warren  
1937-38 Norma Ebright of Courtland  
1939 Miss Nelson from Kackley  
1940 Margery Vance  
1941 Treva Allen of Formoso  
1942-43 Corabelle Stewart, Republic \$80.00  
1944 Lulu Cooper of Republic  
1945 Charlotte Peckham  
1946-47 Lola Gritten (Mrs. Ward Aurand)  
1948 Joan Aksamit \$160 per month  
1949-50 Albert Sankey started the 1950 term, taught until Oct. 13, then entered the Army. Mrs. Virginia Urbznk finished.  
1951 Mrs. Florence Stovall started, resigned with ill health and Albert Sankey finished the term at \$245 per month.  
1952 Sent pupils to Stover School, Mrs. Marjorie Smith, teacher.  
1953 Mrs. Mary Tipton \$325.00  
1954 Geraldine Novak, Republic. School Board: Marion Gillilan, Mrs. Oscar Eitzmann and George E. Powell.  
1955 Ella Page  
1956 Don H. Lauby, Miltonvale.  
1957-58 Mrs. Marie Sorenson taught final two terms for \$387.50. School closed its doors after 87 years and 9 months.

Our Bicentennial Rural School!

#### DISTRICT 77—PRAIRIE DELL

On May 23rd in 1873 Prairie Dell School was organized in Big Bend Township. It was located four and one-half miles north and one mile west of Republic on the school site given by J. Albertson.

Miss Grace McClure taught in the old frame building in 1902-03 and W.S. Hess, Robert Vance and J.N. Albertson were the Board Members.

Harry Fischer went to school in the old frame building that was replaced in 1917 by the schoolhouse in the above



picture. Miss Sadie Robison was the first teacher in the new building and liked it so well that she taught there in 1918, 1919, and 1920 also.

Maggie Hahn was one of the highest-paid teachers in the county in 1906-07 when she taught here for 150 per month for 8 months. The average salary for female teachers was \$43.55. Male teachers were paid an average of \$54.75 that year.

When Prairie Dell decided to discontinue school the land was returned to the former owner J. Alberton. The building was sold and the material was taken to a farm home south of Republic where it was used in a new home.

#### DISTRICT 78—WARWICK

The town of Warwick was located in the N.W. corner of Republic County in Sec. 5 T 1, R 5. This town, unknown to most people, was named for Charle Warwick Gulick of Scandia. Between years 1880-90 it appeared that this town would be the principal trading and business center of this area. The population grew from 300 to 500 almost overnight. By 1890 the town had started slipping and by 1919 the post office had been discontinued. From this date on, the trend was all downhill. This rapid transition downward was reflected in its school history as well.

The school built in 1884 was a two-story building costing the sum of \$1900. In 1891, two teachers were hired to teach here—J.P. Harvey for \$55 and Myrtle Mather for \$35. Both teachers were married and were to start the school year on Sept. 13, 1891. The above must have been the result of the clerk's account of a school meeting on July 30 during which the patrons voted to hire a male teacher for a principal for eight months and to employ a female teacher for five months for \$35. The account also stated that the voters voted for their favorite candidate and stated that nearly all the ladies voted. The previous year this district had voted to levy a tax of 20 mills.

In 1919 at the school meeting, they voted to have an eight months school. In Sept. of that year, a special meeting was called to vote on a discontinuance of school and that tuition be paid for pupils going to Hardy Public School. Each pupil in the district to be allowed ten cents for each and every day said pupil attended school as transportation charges.

In April 1923 the board and district voted that a suitable conveyance be maintained by board of No. 78 for the purpose of transporting their school children to Hardy Public School. Tuition was also to be paid out of school funds.

In 1925, these students were attending Hardy schools—Hugh Orland, Marion Gillilan, Alice and Lola Myler, Lula D. Stinson, Dorothy and Laurence Knapp.

In May 1933, Warwick is still sending their pupils to Hardy. During these years the school building was reshingled, window panes replaced, the doors fixed and other repairing done.

Courthouse records do not tell what became of this school building. Some records do show that these children were probably the last recorded in District 78 census—Kay Gillilan; Linda, Lois, and Louise Fuller; Linda Gleason; Karen Peterson; Gary and Dennis Fuller; Ronald and Clyde Gleason, and Duane Persinger.



Last Day of School: District 78—Warwick School. Picture courtesy of Mrs. Mary Price.

#### DISTRICT 79—ASH GROVE

This school was originally made up of sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11 and 12 T1, R4. It was organized Aug. 15, 1872 and this board elected—N.W. Hayes, W.A. Reeves, and James Wilkins. This district evidently went through several changes as the final change in Jan. 12, 1875 records this land—Sec. 1, 2, 11, 12 and E $\frac{1}{2}$  3 and 10.

In 1894 Edith E. Hermle of Byron taught for nine months and received 130 a month. The board at this time was W. Elliott, G. C. Hermle, and H.T. Bedell all of Byron, Ne. Records show that there were fifteen boys and ten girls attending this school in 1872.

Some early teachers in District 79 were Gladys Stafford, Ethel Mitchell, Mae Swiercinsky, Caroline Street, Lorna Smith, Flora Smith, Elda Stafford, Nellie Palmer, Lucille Reed and many others.

This picture is at Ash Grove when the teacher was Otto Griffen in 1914. He is in the upper right-hand corner inset. The pupils are: Back row—Lloyd Hazen, Walter (Mike) Smith, Vernon Davidson, Clarence Fry, Philip Davidson, George Burton. Middle row: Avis Naysmith, Hazel Currey, Gladys Naysmith, Floy Hazen. Front row—Marie Smith, Lela Hazen (who shared this picture), Velma Fern Naysmith, Fern Fry, Berniece Currey,





Esther Currey, and the little bashful boy she believes is Robert Davidson. The ash trees in the grove at the background of the picture gave the school its name. Another item of note is the aprons worn by the girls.



On a school souvenir dated 1911 is this school picture and Roxy Milner is the teacher of 25 pupils: Back row- Annie Mohrman, Lloyd Hazen, Matie Mohrman, Justine McNitt, Mike Smith, Mabel Davidson, Clarence Fry, Leo Hazen, Vernon Davidson, skip two unknown, Philip Davidson, skip one, Johnnie Mohrman, and Robert Davidson. Front row: Avis Naysmith, Floy Hazen, Arthur Holmes, Lela Hazen, Norman Holmes, Velma Fern Naysmith, Louise Dankenbring, Gladys Naysmith. Fae MNitt, Fred Moehrman and Clint Milner were absent. The Board members were: H. Mohrman, clerk; F.J. McNitt, treasurer; and Fred Fry, director. W.M. Slopansky was county superintendent.

During the year 1917-18 Mable Mitchell taught this group of children in this school: Fern Frye, Hazel Frye, Gwynetha Robertson, Royal Robertson, Lawrence Bise, Violet Johnson, Eavon Naysmith, Velma Naysmith, Vernon Naysmith, Gladys Naysmith, Irene Bostleman, Freda Bostleman, August Bostleman, Geroge Burton, Irvin Hoops, Bernice and Esther Curry, Blanche and Rudolph Blecha.

In 1921-22 Miss Emma Klaumann taught Ash Grove. She had six months of school with these 22 pupils: Emil, Adelia, Walter, and Herman Boling. August Bostlemann, Irvin Hoops, Eavon and Vernon Naysmith, Gwynethia, Royal, and Gladys Robertson, Lillian Schleufer, Elsie and Melvin Summers, Vivian and Percy McNitt, Hazel and Glenn Frye, Lawrence and Inas Bise, Velda Artz. Harold Hobelmann had moved a month before this picture was



taken.

The last day of school dinner was a big event in the school year as can be seen from this crowd at Ash Grove in April, 1922. Miss Klaumann was the teacher. The Board members were: Harry McNitt, clerk; C.C. Summers, treasurer; and Fred Frye, director.



A former student tells that a box supper was held for the express purpose of raising money to buy a school bell. Certainly all schools had programs and box suppers for the express purpose of adding a useful article to their school. This same student mentioned being in a picture in which he covered his knees with his hands as his overalls had holes in the knees. We are certainly going full cycle in denim except that today's young people might purposely cut holes in the knees of jeans or cut the legs off entirely for "cut-offs."

This is "the way it was," front and side views, before annexation of districts to Ash Grove. Laveda Cornett





shares this picture taken in 1941-42 term when the salary was \$55. The Board members were: August Hoops, director; Harold Hobbemann, clerk; and Vernon Naysmith, treasurer. Frances Gritten loaned us the front view picture.

On April 16, 1951 Blue Mound District 97 was totally annexed to District 79. Records show that the following were sold. Two toilets at \$21 each, Coal Shed for \$100, Schoolhouse and contents \$450 making a total of \$592. The school land reverted back to owner at the time of sale, Louis Jens.

Disorganized District 52 Washington voted to annex totally to Ash Grove on Apr. 20, 1951. A sale of property on Dec. 21, 1921 lists these items: Toilets \$10, Merry-Go-Round \$10, School Building and contents \$275, School Land \$70 making a total of \$365.

Disorganized District 70 on Sand Creek "Mt. Vernon" was totally annexed to District 79. It was noted that there had been a fire at the schoolhouse previously.

Even though District 79 had increased greatly by the addition of three other total districts the general trend toward decreasing enrollment could be seen here very plainly.



L. to R. Dean Hobelmann, Junior Hoops, Delmar Hobelmann, Iris Holmes, and Willis Naysmith. Eventually this large district became a part of Washington Central Elementary Attendance Center. The last year that Ash Grove operated as an original school district was 1951-52.

#### NEW DISTRICT 79—WASHINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL

The Washington Central School District 79 was organized in 1952 when five neighboring districts banded

together to form one central district  $2\frac{1}{4}$  miles south of the Kansas and Nebraska state line or of the town of Byron, Nebraska, or 3 miles east,  $2\frac{3}{4}$  miles north of Republic City, Ks.

The school districts involved were Ash Grove, Blue Mound, Center Post, Center Valley (Morehead), and Washington.



A new frame building of one large ground floor classroom and one basement room to be completed for a classroom if the need arose, was near completion when school began in mid-September.

The first year of organization the school began with twenty-three pupils listed as follows: Grade One, Linda Frye, Carol Kroger, Steven Grueber, Leslie Holmes, Grade Two; Roger Bohling, Stephen Kroger, Dennis Free, Sandra Dillon, Grade Three; Susan Stafford, Carolyn Mohrman, Alene Naysmith, Grade Four; none, Grade Five; Charlotte Rahe, Charlene Rahe, Joan Kroeger, Grade Six; Dennis Frye, Kenneth Naysmith, Grade Seven; Lavon Bohling, Harold Dittmar, Grade Eight; Wayne Hobelmann, Robert Hoops, Larry Kroeger, Janice Mohrman, Judith Seybold.

When school began in September of 1952 it was an all new situation. The building and furnishings were new, many of the students were new to each other, and the teacher, Mrs. Velda McCullough, was new to all of it. It was an interesting and happy year.

The second year 1953 to 1954 opened with an enrollment of nineteen students. New names added to the enrollment in the first grade were Charlene Marquart, Nancy Free, and Steven Morehead. Dennis and Nancy Free moved from the district in December of 1953. Linda Schneider entered in the second grade and Galen Schneider entered in the third grade.

When the third school year opened in 1954 to 1955 Jerry Patterson, Tommy Smith, and Shary Stafford were in the first grade. There was a total of seventeen students enrolled.

At the beginning of the fourth year in 1955 to 1956 those children new to the first grade were Wayne Patterson and Randy Kniep. Marilyn Kroeger entered in the third grade. There was a total of seventeen children enrolled for this term.

In the fifth year, 1956 to 1957, there was an enrollment of four in the first grade. They were Steven Frye, Ava Patterson, Karen Peters, and Delta Schneider. The total enrolled was nineteen. It was this year that Mr. Santa Claus (Joe Evans) brought his wife (Fred Hoops) with him to the Christmas Program.



At the beginning of the sixth year, 1957 to 1958, there were 3 enrolled in the first grade. They were Susan Bohling, Roger Marquart, and Marlin Smith. The total enrollment for the year was seventeen.

When school opened in the fall for the seventh term in 1958 to 1959 there were four in the first grade. They were Dalen Kniep, Karen Mitchell, Katherine Peter, and Yvonne Seybold. The attendance was eighteen enrolled.

In 1959 to 1960 was the eighth year for the school. The first grade enrollment was one. He was Mark Hoops. There was fifteen in the total enrollment.

At the beginning of the ninth year in 1960 to 1961 Debra Hoop and Sonya Seybold were in the first grade. There was a total of fifteen enrolled.

When the tenth year opened in 1961 to 1962 Sandra Grauerholz, LuAnn Kettlehut, Bryan Kniep, and Calvin Seybold were in the first grade. There was a total of nineteen enrolled in the school.

The eleventh year of the school which was 1962 to 1963 saw a big change. Due to the large enrollment expected a second teacher was added and the basement classroom was finished and made into a new classroom to take care of grades five, six, seven, and eight. The second teacher was Miss Edith Dolezal. The first grade students were Terry Bohling, Brenda Fischer, Darrel Heitmann, Steven Hoops, and Douglas Kroeger. The total enrollment for the attendance center was twenty-three.

Velda McCullough seated at the left taught grades one to four and at the right is Edith Dolezal, who taught grades five to eight. The top row, left to right: Terri Culp, Ellen Culp, Yvonne Seybold, Roger Marquart, Susan Bohling, Steven Frye, Karen Mitchell, Marlin Smith, Dalen Kniep, Mark Hoops. Middle row: Brenda Fischer, Sandra Grauerholz, Debra Hoops, Sonya Seybold, Calvin Seybold, Brian Kniep, LuAnn Kettlehut and Marjorie



Culp. Bottom row: Kent Smith, Lonnie Hoops, Steven Hoops, Douglas Kroeger, Terry Bohling and Darrell Heitmann.

1963 to 1964 was the twelfth year for the school and it was growing. In the first grade was Lonnie Hoops and Kent Smith. The enrollment for both classrooms together was twenty-four. Miss Edith Dolezal had become Mrs. Leland Effenbeck during the summer and would not be back the following term.

Beginning the thirteenth year in 1964 to 1965 there were four students enrolled in the first grade. They were Marlin Bohling, Marcia Heitmann, Crystal Hobelmann, and Kerry Hoops. The total enrollment for the attendance center was twenty-five. The upper-grade room was taught by a new teacher, Mrs. Carolyn Holly.

The fourteenth year in 1965 to 1966 started with two in the first grade. They were Tamie Fischer and Robert (Bobby) Young. Mrs. Edith Effenbeck was back again as teacher for grades five, six, seven, and eight. The total enrollment for the attendance center was twenty-five.

For the fifteenth year in 1966 to 1967 there were four enrolled in the first grade. They were Gregg Bohling, Jimmy Hoops, David Gebers, and Dana Grauerholz.

Beginning the sixteenth year in 1967 to 1968 there were two enrolled in the first grade. They were Layne Hoops and Mitchell (Mitch) Young. There was a total of twenty-two in the attendance center. Mrs. Ruth Swiercinsky taught the upper-grade room the first semester and Mrs. Nancy Naysmith taught the second semester.

The term of 1968 to 1969 was the seventeenth year and the last year that the school was in operation. There were three first graders. They were Darcy Heitmann, Bradley Hobelmann, and Laurie Young. There was a total of twenty enrolled for the term. Mrs. Ruth Swiercinsky was again the teacher for the upper-grade room the first semester and Miss Patricia Lane taught the second semester.

Mrs. Velda McCullough is the teacher of grades one to







four and her pupils are: Grade I - Darcy Heitmann, Bradley Hobelmann and Laurie Young.

Grade II - Layne Hoops and Mitchell Young

Grade III - Gregg Bohling and Dana Grauerholz

Grade IV - Tamie Fischer and Robert Young

In Grades Five to Eight, the teacher is Patricia Lane and her pupils are: Grade V - Marcia Heitmann, Crystal Habermann, Marlin Bohling and Kerry Hoops.

Grade VI - Lonnie Hoops

Grade VII - Terry Bohling, Brenda Fischer, Darrell Heitmann and Douglas Kroeger

Grade VIII - Sandra Grauerholz and Lee Ann Kettlehut

Washington Central was the last rural school in Republic County before the unification of schools took place. It remained an attendance center in Unified School District 427 until its closing in 1969.

Down through its seventeen years of existence the parents, pupils, and teachers took part in much activity. For a period of several years Community Meetings were held each month during the school months. Many wonderful memories are remembered from them.

For a few years Music Festivals were held in the spring among surrounding rural schools and Washington Central teacher, Mrs. Velda McCullough, and pupils took an active part.

The trackmeets held at Washington Central were always an exciting time when sometimes as many as 125 rural children would get together for the big day.

The pupils of Wahington Central enjoyed many field trips away from the school such as visits to the House of Yesterday at Hastings, Pawnee, Ice Capades at Lincoln, Nebraska, visits to surrounding towns, and other places of interest.

The children and teachers enjoyed the highlights of the year of "Putting on the Christmas Program" and the "Last Day of School Program."

The building has been moved from its rural site and is now resting at the site of the school at Republic, Kansas.

#### DISTRICT 80—HARPER

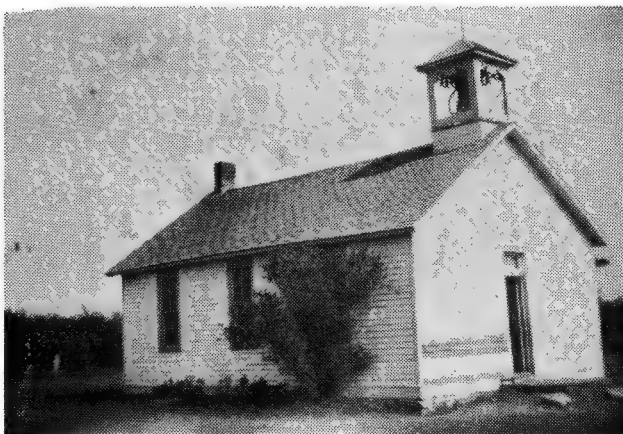
On May 13, 1872 the Harper School District was organized and elected Board members were: G.M. Smith director. J.S. Tracey clerk and W.H. Harper as treasurer.

From the Harper family the school got its name. It was located on Harper land in the SW corner of Sec. 32 four miles south of Cuba in Richland Township. (Tom Harper lived just ¼ mile east of the school.) The schoolhouse was built on one square acre of land from R.T. Harper, the homesteader, who got his Patent on May 29, 1875. This same square acre of land was deeded in 1904 by a later owner, Nancy C. Kennison, to Henry Klaumann for \$1.00. Either before or after this date, it is believed, that the schoolhouse was moved across the road west. Here it became a part of the farm home, which in later years was the home of Ed and Helen Makalous.

In still later years, when the old family home of Anton and Anna Shema (Sima) was moved to that location, the old school part was moved a little ways north where it stands today in use as a chicken house.

We understand that the slab benches and desks were built around the walls as has been true of many.

We do not know who the first teachers were, but the first record of a teacher was found in the 1894-95 Directory showing the H.B. Walter was the teacher and T.J. Harper the director, J.H. Houdek the clerk, and M.D. Wicks the treasurer. Mr. Walter taught four years at Harper.



The postcard picture was a Christmas and New Year's Greeting to Milek Kolman from his teacher Nola Resco about 1913 showing the Harper School. As nearly as can be recalled, they are: back row- a boy, Sylvia Skocny, Helen Makalous and a boy. Middle row: a boy, Frank Kalnas, Bert Benyshek, a girl, and a boy. Front row: Frank Juneke, Milek Kolman, Alois Benyshek and a boy.

About 1877 the James Sterba family came to live



about three-fourths of a mile east of Harper School. The children were Mary, Mike, Will, Charles, Frank and Anna. They all received their early education here. Will, Charles and Anna all taught school in this county and then went on to higher education at Harvard and Kansas State Teachers College at Emporia. After Mike Sterba had made "his fortune" in Oklahoma, he often returned to "the scenes of his childhood" and many fond recollections



he had of Harper. About 1926 he had his picture taken here by the schoolhouse and Mrs. Helen (Shema) Makalous has shared it with us. She also has loaned this interior picture of the Harper School when Rhoda Elsey was the teacher in 1902-03 and the Board members were: J.T. Harper, treasurer; C.E. Knight, clerk; F.C. Denk, director. E.E. Baird was County Superintendent. Back row: left to right- a Hicks boy, Bertha Gover, Ida Cupp, Frances Sterba, Bessie Kolman, Emma Junek, Miss Elsey teacher, Bessie Plevka, Hoyt Bennett and Suddie Pentico. Second row from the back- Frank Shema, a Hicks boy, Frank Tuma, Ed Britton, Albena Tuma, Rosa Sherman. Third row from the back: Mary Klima, a Hicks boy, Frances Benyshek, Bill Sterba, Dennis Harper, Clarence Smith, John Kennison, Frank Sterba, Ed Junek, and Elva Smith. Front row: Charley Klima, Charley Kolman, Ben Tuma, Ed Kolman, Hazel Wertz, Frances Junek, Helen Shema, Mary Benyshek, Charley Sterba, Bill Junek and Earl Smith.

There was much neighborliness in those early days - visiting on Sundays, Sunday School was held in the schoolhouse periodically, and many forms of self-made entertainment were enjoyed. When sorrow came, all were

quick to assist, as was the case when tragedy struck the Cook family and the large family of children were orphaned. They were adopted and looked after until they could make their own way in life and none of them failed to do well.

In 1904-05 Clarence Pointer was the teacher. The Board members were: C.E. Knight, clerk; F.E. Denk, director; Frank Junek, treasurer.



Mrs. Olive Fojt was teacher at Harper in 1941-42 having only these five pupils: Ramona Benyshek, Leroy Tuma, Charles Klima, Junior Chizek and Barbara Benyshek. By 1943-44 there was quite a change in the enrollment to these eight pupils: Back row- Barbara Benyshek, Mrs. Fojt, and Ramona Benyshek. Middle Row: Glen Lojka, Junior Chizek, Charles Klima. Front row are: Roxana Benyshek, Marilyn Chizek and Janet Benyshek.



On February 22, 1952 came the order of disorganization of Harper District and the order of annexation to Districts 113 and 111 on March 3, 1952. So the district that was once a part of the Original District 5 consisting of 54 square miles goes through transition which in 1966 made it a part of Unified District 455.

The last teacher at Harper School was Mrs. Sonja

Anderson in 1950-51. Lawrence Havel was director, Edward Potuzak was clerk and Edgar Kalivoda was the treasurer. The following year the pupils were sent to other districts and this Board functioned for the closing documents and legal disbursement of property: director Lawrence Havel, Clerk Frank Cherney and treasurer was Edgar Kalivoda.

From the Gift to the Future-Our Heritage, a history of Elk Creek Township published by the Bicentennial Committee (1976) we wish to share some names of pupils. In 1897-98 these names appear: Mary Sterba, Bertha Cook, Joe Beneda, Mary Shellhammer, Jessie Kennison, August Houdek, Stella Burgess, Daisy Conn, Stella Skeels, Charles Tuma, William Cook, Frank Tuma, Bertha Burgess, Rosa Houdek, Frank Tuma, William Harper, Gracie Conn, Nellie Burgess, Eddie Tuma, Belle Leatherman, Mary Tuma, Thad Harper, Louis Tuma, Rosa Skeels, Al Wicks, Arthur Holland, Anna Kennison, Nord Smith, Will Sterba, Mabel Harper, Stanzie Houdek, Will Smith, Nord Marsh, Mary Shema, Emma Tuma, Teanie Shindler, Phoebe Juneke.

In 1901 Ida Bullen was the teacher and the School Board were; clerk, C.E. Knight; treasurer, J.T. Harper; director, M.D. Weeks. The pupils were: Anna Kennison, John Kennison, Nora Smith, Teanie Shindler, Francis Shindler, Anna Shindler, Ida Cupp, Mary Shema, Rosa Shema, Frank Shema, Charles Sterba, Frank Tuma, Joe Tuma, Lue Tuma, Flossie Paulin, Bessie Paulin, Frank Beneda, Willie Beneda, Alva Tuma, Grace Scott, Winfield Scott, James Scott, Della Goodwin, Bessie Kolman, Charley Kolman, Mary Klima, Stanzie Houdek, Fred Houdek, Emma Tuma, Ed Britton, Emma Juneke, Fanny Juneke, Eddie Juneke, Suddie Pentico, Adolph Benyshek, Mary Benyshek, Stella Benyshek, Henry Benyshek, Esther Anderson, Henry Anderson, Lenora Marsh, Stephen Marsh.

There is an interesting note that gives a little insight into how slowly the laws concerning teachers came. From Winny Robordy comes the information that Bertha McDonald, age 17, was teaching school when the law was passed that a teacher must be 17 before teaching school, but she had already taught for one year! She just continued teaching!

#### DISTRICT 81 — DAY SCHOOL

On the 26th of August, 1872 the first meeting was held to organize the Day School District, located 3½ miles east of Norway and 2 miles south.

S.G. Jones was elected director, James Day clerk, and William G. Hay treasurer. A deed was received by the Day District on September 14, 1889 for a consideration of \$30. The deed was filed August 5, 1890.

Mrs. Lucille Myers has borrowed from her mother Mrs. Pearl Barleen this picture taken at the Day School when Miss Ethel Poore taught there in the early 1900's. The pupils in the front row, left to right are: Sophia Dodge, Dora Larkins, June Larkins, Molly Nixon, Edith Day, Arvilla Green and Floyd Day.

Second row: Ted Hagle, Stanley Dodge, Marie Brasseau, Lulu Day, Elmer Hagle, Glen Simpson, Vernal Anderson.

Third row: Lee Larkins, Hattie Knoche, Miss Poore



the teacher, Bernice Loofbourrow, Claude Dodge, Lloyd Simpson and Bert Larkins.

Available school records are incomplete and begin in 1900-01 when school terms were four to six months in length. After 1909 seven-month terms were held and ten years later eight-month terms were the rule.

Beginning in 1900-1901 term this is the roster of teachers employed by the Day District: Cora Simpson, Mary Hay, May Dickerhoff, Estella Booze, Ethel Poore, Alice Davis, Miss Prity Scott, Mabel Young, A. Moser, Evalyn Bockover, Mabel Kempton, Mae Young, Frances Figgins, Selma Nutter, Maude Gile, Ruth Anthony, Lloyd McGregor, Myron Kellogg, Mary Cunningham, Alice Krohn, Inez Beals, Margaret Danielson, Gust Danielson, Maxine Ames, Mable Watts, Irene Kellogg, Mildred Tiller.



District 81 Mary Cunningham was teacher when this picture was taken in 1926 or 1927: Courtesy of Mrs. Forrest Talent. Pupils were Evelyn Basset, Tom Barleen, Lloyd Barleen, Minnie Wilson, Bernice Wilson, Kenneth Wilson, Mabel Barleen, Clarence Gile, Dorothy, Gile, Frances Barleen, Doris Dodge, Ralph Barleen, Maxine Barleen, Pauline Nichol, Donald Wright, Betty Dodge, Avery Wilson.

There were no records prior to 1900 nor after 1933.

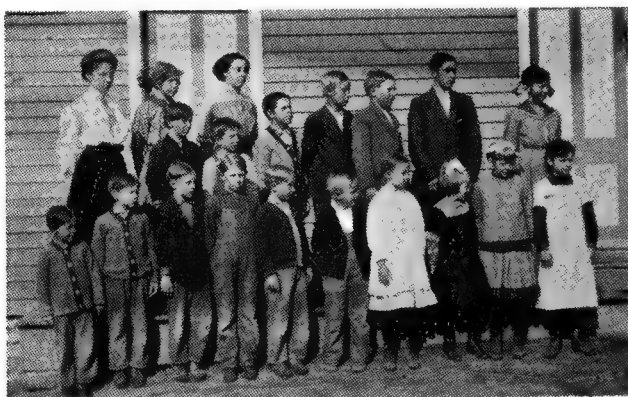
At the Annual Meeting April 8, 1949 a motion was made that the schoolboard make arrangements to send

pupils to other districts, if necessary. Motion carried. The officers were Frank Morgan, director; Joe Budreau, treasurer; and Pearl Day, clerk.

George Barleen bought the land on which the schoolhouse stood and Ralph Barleen purchased the building which still stands on the original site.

#### DISTRICT 82 — PLEASANT VIEW

Pleasant View School was organized Sept. 5, 1872, a year later than Oak Creek No. 32. Settlement kept reaching farther west and its boundaries included the S½ of Sec. 22, the S½ of Sec. 23 excluding the N½ of the SW¼, then all of Sections 26, 27, 34, and 35 in Beaver Township. The schoolhouse was located on the NE corner of Sec. 34 two miles south of Kackley.



By the courtesy of Mrs. Ada Logan-Henrickson we can give you a picture of the children at this school in 1909-10 while she was teaching there. Back row, left to right are: the teacher, Miss Ada Logan, Ella Johnson, Mabel Stahlman, Carl Swenson, Carl Anderson, Chester Henrickson, Godfred Johnson, Augusta Johnson.

Two boys in the middle row: Arthur Mallery, Archie Pearson. Front Row, left to right: Homer Swenson, Carl Swenson, Richard Johnson (whose younger brother Truman Johnson is now Mayor of Belleville), Bennie Pearson, Clifton Henrickson, Edwin Anderson, Agnes Anderson, Opal Kackley, Elvera Johnson, and Cora Wilson.

Della M. Fancher taught a term beginning Sept. 4, 1876. Salary - \$12.00 a month and board. Board agreed to pay \$36 on or before Dec. 1.

Two board members were - Jacob Spivey - Clerk and J. Houghton, Director.

1877: Teacher - Martha Willford; \$20 a month, no board; 3 months school.

1878: Teacher - Linnet Glasgow.

1879: Teacher - J. M. Lawrence; \$26 a month; 6 months school.

1880: Olive Sterling - Teacher \$20 for 3 months "Money on hand to be paid to the teacher at the close of school and an order for the balance, without interest, to be paid as soon as possible."

1887: Teacher - Cora Glasgow; Teacher to be paid \$265 on the first day in November and \$265 on the first day of June - "said teacher agrees to build her own fires and sweep the house."

Some other teachers: Aaron Segerhammar - (See

note later, of interest about him).

1898 - Anna Rimol (I presume this was the doctor in Norway.)

1915-1917 - Esther A. Johnson

1917-1918 - Ella Larson

1920-1922 - Iva Houghton (Mrs. Hans-Ruth- Anderson's sister)

Number attending: 1892 - 60 pupils; 1911 - 21 pupils; 1933 - 2 pupils; In 1881 there were 50 enrolled with an average attendance of 11 4-9th average att. according to the teacher's record that year.

In 1878 taxes on taxable property - 1 percent for wages, 1 percent incidental, library, 2 mills "It was decided to have school begin in the district about the 1st of Sept. and to continue as long as there was money. It was decided in admitting (sic) non-resident pupils to the public school of this district, that they pay the sum of 50 cents and tuition per month and in failure of payment, should be stopped from further attendance."

Motion was made in April, 1939 to send the pupils of the district of Kackley, District 121, Transportation - 6 cents a mile. By 1945 - 8 cents a mile to each family.

On May 24, 1945 a special meeting of voters of said district was called for the purpose of voting on the proposition to consolidate School District 82 with School District 121. Vote by ballot - carried 14-1. District 121 vote 24-0.

(Aaron Segerhammar - uncle of Albert - sometimes reached his school by an unusual method. When it was cold weather, he skated down the Republican river as far as possible and then walked the remainder of the way.)

#### MILLER SCHOOL — DISTRICT 83

Like so many other districts, Miller School was organized in 1872 - September 28th, to be specific. The first Board members were Hiram D. Royse, E.S. Johnson, and D.L. Green.

The location of the schoolhouse was 7½ miles due north of Courtland in White Rock Township. It included all of Section 8, 9, and 16, and parts of 4, 5, 6, 7, 10 and 17 - a fair-sized district in 1945 Directory.

In the early part of this century, Charley Klaumann taught school here with Board Members J.W. Simmons, director; O.P. Miller, clerk; J. I. Barber, treasurer. The pupils were: Iva Miller, Billie Miller, Grover Simmons, Alva Simmons, Sarah Simmons, Everett Stephens, Jessie Blamat, Ben Fuller, Wilber Barrett, Dessie Fisher, Ida





Fsiher, Blanche Fisher, Ivan Shindle, Minnie Miller, Howard Barber, George Simmons, Willie Simmons, Katie Simmons, Alta Stephens, Joe Fuller, May Fuller, Cranston Barrett, Floyd Fisher, Hazel Fuller, Lloyd Miller, and Elsa Shindle.

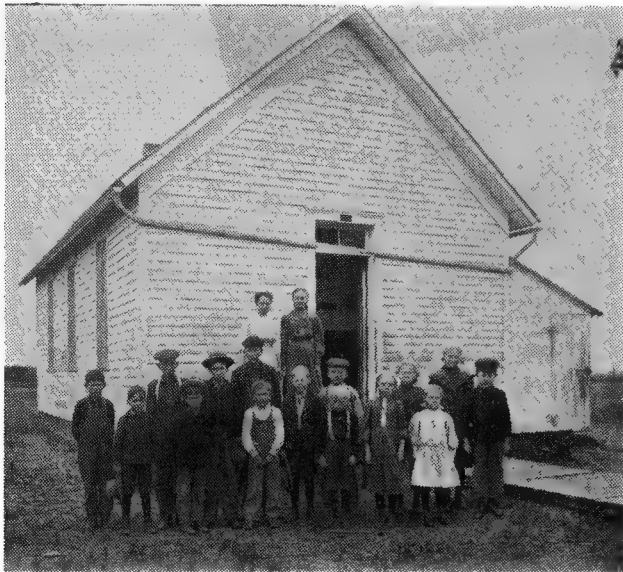
This picture was taken on April 16, 1923 when Miss Emma Klaumann was the teacher.

#### DISTRICT 84 — POPLAR GROVE

District 84 was organized Sept. 21, 1872. It was located two miles south of District 9 and two miles north of Redtop, District 112. It is also three miles east and one south of Scandia and so no child would have far to walk to school. Included in its boundaries were all of Sections 13, 14, 23, 24, E $\frac{1}{4}$  of both Sections 25 and 15 in Scandia Township.

The first Board Members were Samuel Cameron, director; Allen Jacobs, treasurer; and Lethenda Gowers, Clerk. The first teacher was Samuel Cameron.

The first school building was a wooden frame structure with windows on each side and topped by a belfry. This bell summoned pupils to school and in from play periods at noon and recesses.



In 1908-9 when Miss Carrie Keith taught school in the old frame structure, we note the fuel house attached to the side of it. There seems to be no belfry at that time. The walk appears to be of boards laid across 2 by 4's. There is a wooden foundation to the fuel house supported on a piling at the corner.

Miss Keith's pupils were listed, but not identified in this picture: Walter Boman, Emery Berry, Albert (Dutch) Berry, Virgil Baldwin, Mahlon Baldwin, Herbert Moshier, Charley McGlashan, Lizzie Tish, Flossie Smith, Vera Smith, Pansy Smith, Dean Engstrom, Lars Norgard, Carl Norgard, Bertha Norgard, Oscar Norgard. Miss Keith is standing at the back in the light dress.

The building was lighted with kerosene lamps which were set into metal brackets along the walls. Heat was provided with a huge black stove that burned wood or coal. Pupils seated close to the stove were often uncomfortably hot, while those seated farther away from

the stove felt cold.

Children's coats were hung on hooks at the back of the room. Lunch pails were usually lined up along a bench placed at the back. The lunch pails varied greatly in size and kind. Many of them were syrup or lard buckets.

The children sat together in large desks which did not fit their various sizes. As years passed, these desks were replaced with individual desks that could be adjusted to large, small, or middle-sized children. Some of these desks were bought in different sizes and could not be adjusted. Often the desks were fastened to boards in a row so that they could be moved for cleaning.

The usual waterpail with one dipper from which everyone drank was used. Later, a water-cooler with a spigot was provided and each child had his own drinking cup.

According to a report by William Hay which was published in the newspapers under the caption "It Happened in Kansas" (about 1911) an early teacher in District 84 drew a pistol from his desk in an attempt to discipline the students. He pointed the pistol at them; however, they all ran from the room and escaped. As might be expected, a new teacher, Sylvia Blackwood (Sherwood), was hired to replace the gun-toter.

In 1899-1900 Miss Lucy Howard was Superintendent of Schools for the County and Miss Lillian Chapman taught this school of 47 pupils. According to the School Souvenir they were: Noah Myers, Walter Henry, Janie West, Birdie Myers, Florence West, Lucy West, Willie Godddard, Harvey Myers, Emma West, Florence McGlashan, Artie Nelson, Minnie Hall, Martha West, Eva Henry, Martha Daggett, Mary Hay, Katie Hay, Jimmie West, Milton Hillery, Katie McGlashan, Myrtle Myers, Mary Daggett, Blanche Henry, Maude McGlashan, Oliver Johnson, Emil Boman, Laura West, Otto Nelson, Maggie West, Tommie West, Charlie Goddard, Grant Myers, Lottie McGlashan, George West, Mable Hall, Ada Goddard, Mary West, Rufus Myers, Jessie Hay, Bessie West, Emil Nelson, Ethel Goddard, Willie West, Mamie McGlashan, and Frank West.



It is not known exactly when the old frame building was replaced by this fine new modern building. It was while Miss Frances Fickel taught here that District 84 became a Superior School.

The picture is furnished by the courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Segerhammar. At the top of the picture is



Warren Segerhammar, Miss Fickel, Clarence Cooper, Roscoe Cooper, Orville Kyle, Ira Berry, Gertie Strong, Ralph Kyle, Eldred Segerhammar and the rest of the children could not be identified. You can see the basketball court at the back of the grounds and in the foreground is a turning rod for chinning.



While Lillie Johnson was teacher, these children were photographed in front of the old frame building: Top row, left to right: a girl, Ruby Sanderson, Myrtle Marlow, Bertha Norgard a McCormick, Walter Berry, Oscar Norgard, George Legrand, Edward Sandell, Charlie McGlashan, Albert Segerhammar, Lloyd McCormick. First Row: Helen Sandell, Edith McGlashan, Hildur Sandell, Alta Williams, Ira Berry, Virgil Johnson, Hazel Johnson, Christine Norgard, Mabel Brand, and Warren Segerhammar.



We believe this next picture was when Miss Mabel Young was teacher: Charlie McGlashan, Albert Berry, Bertha Norgard, Myrtle Marlow. Second Row: Albert Segerhammar, Warren Segerhammar, Oscar Norgard, Marguerite McGowan, Helen Sandell, Hildur Sandell, Edith McGlashan, First Row: Gerty Strong, Virgil Johnson, Christine Norgard, Mabel Brand, Jessie Nichol, Hazel Johnson, and Ira Berry.

Miss Edna Robison recalls that while she went to school there: Lillie Johnson, Mabel Young, Arthur Sjöholm, Ruth Thomas, and Frances Fickel who taught school there. She believes the school board were: Otto Nelson, A.W. Segerhammar, and Elmer Nichol.

In 1957 Poplar Grove Superior District No. 1 held its final term. District 84 joined District 9 and became known at Consolidated 230. The school building was sold and became a farm home.

## ELM GROVE — DISTRICT 85

Elm Grove School District 85 was organized October 29, 1872 in Union Township, Sections 3, 4, 9, 10, the W½ of 2 and 10 and parts to the N½ of 15 and 16. The schoolhouse was on the NE corner of Section 9.

The first Board members were Richard Wilford, director; Oscar Ware, clerk; and Richard Daugherty, treasurer.

The schoolhouse was 3 miles east and two miles south of Republic or 7 miles north and one east of Scandia.



In 1923-24 Miss Edna Robison was the teacher of these 20 pupils: Top row: Freda Tallent, Elda Beck, Edwin Anderson, William Clark. Middle: Lucille: Lucille Clark, Verda Beck, John Clark, Blue Bell Persinger, Johnie Tallent, Paul Nobel, Raymond Beck, Rex Noble, and Harold Anderson. Bottom row: Raymond Persinger, Woodrow Anderson, Edna Noble, Joe Noble, Raymond Anderson, Hazel Clark, Velma Birrell.

At that time the Board members were: A.L. Anderson, clerk; W. Ward, director; A. Birrell, Jr., Treasurer.

In July, 1951 Elm Grove annexed to District 39 Union Valley to the south of it. There had been no school for three years.

The new building was sold and moved to Belleville to become the home of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Baxa.



No dates were given for these pictures, but they seem to belong to the decade of the first one. Here the elm trees are in evidence back of the school. Back row: Lucille

Clark, Rex Noble, Cecile Imler, Paul Noble, Verda Beck, Johnie Clark. Second row: Joe Noble, Leota Scott, Loretta Page, Velma Birrell, Verlene Stafford, Hazel Clark, Raymond Beck. Front row: Dee Stafford, Lola Brant, Harold Persinger, George Scott, Melvin Birrell, Beulah Clark, Dallas Stafford...20 pupils.



What a typical prairie landscape setting for these 18 Elm Grove children! Back row: Leota Scott, Charlotte Schotte, Middle row: a Scott boy, four Imler children - Galen is the shorter boy, then Boyd Imler, Velma Birrell, Raymond Beck. On the front row: an Imler boy, Lola Brant, Dallas Stafford, Darrell Birrell, Verlen Stafford, Bud Brant, Dee Stafford, a boy and Melvin Birrell.

#### PRAIRIE HOME SCHOOL 86

The Prairie Home School was a school before it had its own building. The first records, that we find, show that school was held in 1872 in the home of William Phelps, the homesteader. Perry Heaton was the first teacher in this home on the prairie that also served as the post office. It was opened on June 30, 1871. The post office continued here until December 27, 1878. William Phelps was the first postmaster.

The first boundary of school district 86 was in sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12 and E½ of 4 in township 3, S and Range 2, W in Jefferson Township. Also 34, 35, and 36 in T-2-S and R-2-W., in Fairview Township. The first school meeting was held on October 22, 1872. Then the school district board members were elected. These officers were J. M. Campbell, director; A.G. Brown, clerk and William Phelps as treasurer.

Boundaries were changed on January 8, 1873, Detached from this district was SW¼ of section 10. Then on January 12, 1875 it consisted of sections 34, 35 and 36 in Fairview Township, also 2,3.E½ of 4, N½ of 1 and SE¼ of 1 in Jefferson Township. Then in the years of 1887 to 1901 the district was visited by these County Superintendents: B.T. Bullen on January 12, 1887 and again by B.T. Bullen on October 7, 1890 and by Lucy Howard on November 14, 1899 and again on May 11, 1901.

It is believed, school building was built, in 1873. It was located in section 2 in the north west corner. William Phelps was granted his patent on this land on June 1, 1879. So he must have settled here and built his home before 1874 a few years before he filed his homestead claim papers. In the warranty deed from William Phelps and wife to William H. Phelps for the W½ of the NW½ of section 2, dated April 12, 1882 it is stated, all except 1 acre

which is deeded to School District 86 for a school site.

How this school got the name, Prairie Home, can only be a guess. But the background for this school, can well be seen, because it had a prairie home background as well as its beginning.

In a bad prairie fire the Crane family lost their home. It was about 1½ miles north east across the prairie to the Bennett home. Mrs. Crane and her children went there for shelter. Mr. Crane was away at the time on a trip. It's reported that Mr. Crane was a salesman for the Singer Sewing Machine Company in Eastern Kansas. A week after the fire on April 13, 1873 a terrific storm and blizzard developed. From too much heavy wet snow, the roof, gables and floors caved in. The Bennett home was in Section 11. Mrs. Bennett and their three children froze to death. Mrs. Crane and two of her children froze to death also. Mr. Bennett took the two Crane children and went for help. The boy died, but the girl survived.

The Crane girl was taken in by the William Phelps family. She attended Prairie Home School several years. There is no record of this school in those early years. So it is not known what became of the Crane girl, or when she left Prairie Home School and the Phelps home.



In old records and in old history, there is confusion as to those that froze to death in the April 13, 1873 storm. True, it was 8 that froze to death. But first, Mr. Bennett found his wife and three of their children frozen to death and Mrs. Crane and two of her children. It is stated by some early stories that the two children that were alive, whom he took with him for help were Mrs. Crane's children. This is in error, the boy was Mr. Bennett's son and the girl Mrs. Crane's daughter. The boy died, thus, Mr. Bennett lost his wife and four children. This is proven by the dates on the carved tombstones at the Bennett's graves in Farmington Cemetery. There are no markers at the graves of the Crane's.

Another storm hit in the area on May 30, 1879. This storm took Prairie Home School off its foundation. There was not much damage done, soon it was repaired.

Prairie Home School continued at this location until in 1893. Also by this time the rail road passed very close to the school. So it was decided to rebuild in a different location. A site was picked about a half mile to the east.

This new location was homesteaded by Mary E. Phelps. She was married before her homestead claim time was completed. Records show that the patent was made out to Mary E. Cole on June 1, 1878. Then in 1892 Ernest A. Cole and wife deeded a 1 acre plot in the NW

corner of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 2 to the School District 86. This deed was in exchange for the sum of \$50.00. The deed stated, the party of the second part had to build a hog and cattle type fence on the east and south sides of the described land. Also, that the one acre was to be used only for school purpose. If not, then the land was to go back to the party of the first part.

So in 1893 this second Prairie Home School was built in this new location. School was continued here until the term of 1956-57. The first record of this school that the writer could find is for the term of 1904-05. It was for September 5, 1904 thru May 3, 1905. The teacher that year was Josephine Jehlik. The 32 pupils that term were: Agnes Barton, Rosa Leshovsky, Emma Kasl, Bessie Kelley, Nellie Smith, Bessie McChesney, Emma Leshovsky, Edna Walters, Flossie Dorman, Eva Anderson, Nellie Anderson, Ollie Barton, Ella Halek, Rosa Barton, Daisy Davidson, Willie Lovemburg, Elmer Leshovsky, Eddie Leshovsky, John McChesney, Louis Kasl, Clarence McChesney, Berle Dorman, Charley Kasl, Frank Beck, Willie Leshovsky, Howard Anderson, Joe Barton, Eddie Barton, Willie Barton, George Barton, Lennie Barton, Glenn Davison.



The three terms of 1922-23, 1923-24 and 1924-25 were taught by Laura E. Stepanek. On October 26, 1922 she had a Halloween program and Box Supper. This netted for the school \$60.95. First they paid the \$5.00 that was due on the organ which was unpaid for the past two years. There was a Christmas Program with a tree and Santa arrived. She mentions special days and community meetings which were Frances Willard Day, September 28, 1922; Halloween Program and Box supper on October 26, 1922; Christmas Program, December 23, 1922 and the Last Day of School Dinner, April 25, 1923. She mentioned also that she was absent one whole week on account of illness. They made up this time on Saturdays. Also that New Years Day and the day after Halloween were made up at the end of the term.

The last day of school dinner in April, 1923. From left to right: Emma Richecky, Clarence Richecky, Laura Stepanek (teacher), Violet (Shema) Rizek, Dorothy Barton, Alven Barton, Bessie Shema, Tillie Barton, Victoria Barton.

Her records show that Lillian Barton was neither absent nor tardy during the term of 1924-25. Also, that she was awarded a Gold Star Certificate. The term of 1922-23 she had 64 visitors. In 1923-24 she had 50 visitors. there are no records to be found for the term of 1924-25.



The teachers as follows, are those we can find between 1905-05 through 1956-57. They are listed here-with by terms, 1904-05 Josephine Jehlik, 1905-06 Margaret McDonald, 1906-07 C. W. Rundus, 1907-08 Estella Rizek, 1908-09 C. C. Sterba, 1909-10 George Ide, 1910-11 Edna Graham, 1911-12 Rose Barnett, 1912-13 Frank Hemphill, 1913-14 Alice Hemphill, 1914-16 Edna Graham, 1916-17 Kathleen Fitts, 1917-18 Anna Coufal, 1918-19 Irma Harris, 1919-20 Lottie Barton, 1920-21 Helen F. Northup, 1921-22 Beryl Nesmith, 1922-25 Laura E. Stepanek, 1925-26 Frances Doupnik, 1926-28 Mrs. J. H. Sorick, 1928-30 Stella Havel, 1930-31 Lorna Vanous, 1931-32 Anne Filinger, 1932-34 Marie Drapal, 1934-36 Flossie Martin, 1936-37, 1937-38, 1938-39 Lenna Mae Haptonstall, 1939-41 Miss Frances Kovarik, 1941-43 Laura M. Hill, 1943-45 Dorothy Novotny, 1945-46 Marcella Pachta, 1946-47 Mary Kieffer, 1947-48 Wilma Dolezal, 1948-49 Arlene Houdek, 1949-50 Dwann Edward Veroda, 1950-51 Florence Blecha, 1951-52 Mary C. Kieffer, 1952-53 Mrs. Jack McDonald, 1953-54 Elmer Brown, 1954-57 Sylvia Donaldson.

We find no record who taught in the two terms of 1936-37 and 1937-38. Three teachers each taught three terms. they are Edna Graham, Laura E. Stepanek and Sylvia Donaldson. Then there were eight teachers that taught for two terms, they were, Mrs. J.H. Sorick, Stella Havel, Marie Drapal, Flossie Martin, Miss Frances Kovarik, Laura M. Hill, Dorothy Novotny, Marie Kieffer.

School Board Members are difficult to find, we have already mentioned those elected in October of 1872. The next we find were Frank Shema, Elmer Lesovsky and Frank Barton, Jr. for the term of 1919-20. Then from this term of 1939-40 through 1956-57 the members seemed to hold their office a number of terms. Following, starting with those in order of dates elected by actual records from 1939-40 term on are, Elmer Lesovsky, (1919) 1 year; Frank Barton, Jr., 5 years; Frank Shema, 3 years; Vincent Pachta, 21 years; George G. Leshovsky, 10 years; Leon W. Lesovsky, 17 years and Fred L. Baxa, Sr., 9 years. This, though, is not fair to the earlier members between lost records. So we are relating the following: We have found one record of 1919-20, with these board members, Elmer Lesovsky, Frank Barton, Jr., and Frank Shema. This results in missing records for the next 20 years. Members of the 1939-40 term board were, Vincent Pachta, Frank Barton, Jr. and Frank Shema. We have no proof of any different board members during these missing years. So we assume, somewhere near the 1939-40 term Vincent Pachta replaced Elmer Lesovsky, which would place his services, no doubt, somewhere over 15 years more than his one. This would also cause a few additional years ot be added to Vincent Pachta's services. Now, Frank Barton and Frank Shema were members in



1919-20 and also were still members and were listed in 1939-40. This would give each of them an additional 20 years of service. I feel that this is reasonable figuring and fair to these worthy Prairie Home School board members.



In 1931-32 Ann Filinger-Swiercinsky taught Prairie Home. These are the ten pupils in her school: Back row, standing: Gerald Shulda, Raymond Lesovsky, Glen Shulda, Claire Shema. Second row, standing: Wanda Brown, Lorene Lesvosky, Marcella Pacht, Marie Frances Kasl, First row, sitting: Mary Frances Makalous, the teacher Ann Filinger-Swiercinsky, Angeline Polansky.

The term of 1954-55 at Prairie Home School they had a basketball team. Very few of the country schools, those days had teams. Larry Baxa well remembers this team. The Cuba Grade School invited this team to play in their tournament. They beat the Cuba grade team and took 3rd place. He says there were no trophies given, instead, they received cash. He thinks it was \$7.00 that they received. They bought the school a new basketball and divided the balance among the team's eight boys. Fred Baxa, Sr. was the coach. The team's players were Don Lesovsky, Dale Lesovsky, Vincent Pacht, Jr., John Pacht, Elvin Barton, Billie Barton, Fred Baxa, Jr. and Larry Baxa. In the tournament the boys played hard and were ahead. Coach Baxa was running short on players with only minutes left to play. So he told Larry, age 8, to get in there and play. Larry says, when he went in to play he hardly knew what to do. But he did play hard, as did all the boys. It was a proud team and school when they took the 3rd place.

Prairie Home School was closed after the term of September 3, 1956 thru April 24, 1957. The school's last teacher was Sylvia Donaldson. Last pupils of the school were, Marvin Baxa - grade 1, Ella Baxa - grade 3, Larry Baxa - grade 5, John Pacht - grade 6, Dale Lesovsky - grade 8, Freddie Baxa - grade 8. The school board that term were Vincent Pacht, treasurer; Leon Lesovsky, director and Fred Baxa, Sr. clerk.

The board members remained in office until after the disorganization and annexation of School District 86. This disorganization was completed on May 28, 1960. Prairie Home School District was taken in by Tabor 33, Cuba 111 and McCune Con. 226.

The school building was sold on August 22, 1960 to Don Krotz. He tore the building down for the lumber. The cement base and foundation, today, still remain. It is in the extreme north west corner of the NE 1/4 of section 2. It is attached to the farm, now the estate of the late Frank

Shema. His son, Clair and his wife, live on this farm and he farms the land. Because of legal technicalities, due to early deeds, the transfer of title or the sale of the land of School District 86 cannot be made at this time. — Written and Researched by, E. F. Stepanek, April 26, 1976.

#### SCHOOL DISTRICT 87 — DOWNING SCHOOL

On April 10, 1873 the first school meeting was held and the District 87 laid out. Reports have it that an attempt was made by the "district fathers" to build a sod schoolhouse; however, it fell in. Therefore, from 1875 to 1878 school was held at the M. Jensen home (Probably the Clarence Gile farm of today). There were three months of school each year.

The first schoolhouse was built in 1878. There are no known records or pictures of this building; according to Elwyn Isaacson. There is a teacher's report for 1877 when Miss Lillie Thompson taught these 17 pupils for a three-month term for \$20 per month: Kittie Thomas, Clara Thomas, Evan Rowe, Mary Anderson, Gusta Anderson, Nellie Palmer, Lillie Palmer, Viola Palmer, Lottie Palmer, Nora Palmer, Sarah Brown, Mary Brown, Albert Rowe, John Rost, Frank Rost, Charley Anderson and Alen Palmer.

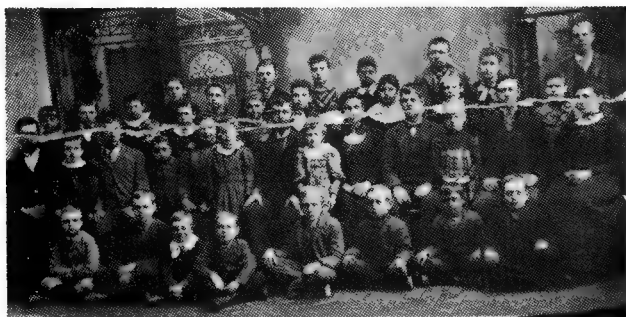
The first Board Members were: John Thomas, Ed Downing, and A. Ellingson. The school building was located in the SE corner of SE 1/4 of Section 36 in Courtland Township. It was at the "crossroads" of Courtland, Beaver, Norway, and Scandia Townships.



According to Irvin Nondorf, this was a picture of Downing School in 1897. Miss May Glasco was the teacher of these 34 pupils: Anna Anderson, Arthur Anderson, Elmer Anderson, Arthus Nordman, Opal Nordman, Ida Anderson, Walter Anderson, Nellie Anderson, Gertena Anderson, Eva Woods, Belle Woods, Art Ellingston, Bill Ellingston, Grace Ellingston, Elmer Jensen, Edwin Isaacson, Ablin Isaacson, Phibie Isaacson, Gust Isaacson, John Isaacson, Mary Isaacson, Roy Thomas, Edward Thomas, Nellie Thomas Ruth Thomas, Edith Thomas, Edity Gunter, Frank Gunter, Kenneth Thomas, Howard Stafford, Jerry Kercishener, Regina Jensen, Gertrude Jensen, John P. Jensen.

In 1893-94 this picture (courtesy of Elwyn Isaacson) carries the fancy bric-a-brac of the "Gay Nineties" and with the help of several people we can identify as follows: Top row, left to right: Anna Anderson, Oscar Bergstrom, Lou Gretchel Downing, Atilles Nordman, Gertie Anderson, Charles Madison, M. Downing, Amelia



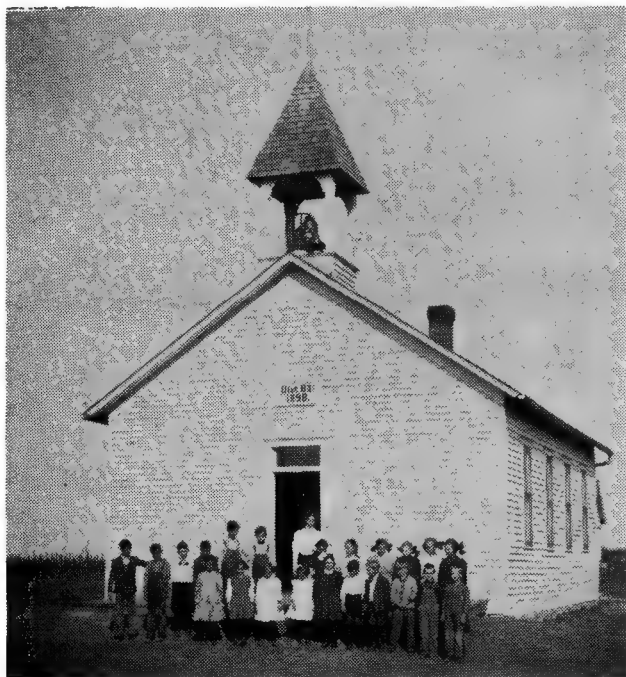


Peterson Erickson, Hugh Etter, Martha Larson,

Second Row: Charles Downing, Charles Nordman, Ed Thomas, two girls, Conred Sederlin, Belle Woods Florell, Amanda Isaacson, Oscar Anderson, Amanda Jensen, Ed Downing, Evan Woods Sothers, Jenny McPherson (teacher), Nellie Downing, Ida Anderson Davis, Phoebe Isaacson Erickson, Opal Lockman Rockhold, Edith Thomas Fraser.

Bottom Row: Art Downing, Ed Anderson, Luther Keshner, Edwin Isaacson, Arthur Anderson, Gust Isaacson, Roy Thomas, John Isaacson.

Apparently, this was the last year for the old school, because on August 15, 1898 a special meeting was held to vote bonds for this new school building. It carried by a vote of 32 to 1.



How proud the parents of District 87 were of their school and their children is evidenced by another lovely picture loaned by courtesy of Anna McBride. No accurate date is given, but the late 90's is close. Top row left to right: Arthur Ellingson, Roy Thomas, Opal Nordman-Rockhold, Gust Isaacson, Grace Ellingson-Jensen, Arthur Downing, Oscar Bergstrom, John Isaacson.

Second row: Nellie Anderson, Edith Thomas-Fraser, Eva Woods-Sothers, Phoebe Isaacson-Erickson, Geina Jensen, Sophia Peterson, Belle Woods-Florell, Elmer

Anderson, Albin Isaacson.

Third row: Willie Ellingson, Walter Anderson, Miss Viola Bullen teacher, Nellie Thomas-Downing, Lillie Ellingson-Nelson, Gertie Jensen-Fulcomer, Esther Isaacson-McDowell, Mary Isaacson-Pickett, Edwin Isaacson, Bottom row: Myrtle Anderson-Happer, Lillie Carlson, Frank Jensen, Adolph Jensen, Eddie Carlson, Earl Thomas, Oscar Isaacson.

This school was in use in 1898.



In 1910-11 Miss Fannie Small taught Downing School with 22 pupils. Back row, left to right: Johnnie Thomas, Walter Jensen, Waldo Woods, Paul Thomas, Clinton Anderson, Adolph Jensen, Fannie Small (teacher), Faye Etter, Mabel Holmquist, Clella Kackley, Edna Woods, Ellen Holmquist, May Woods.

Front row: Anna Thomas, Mabel Etter, Ella Jensen, Rosemond Madison, Glada Etter, Marion Madison, Carl Ericson, El Reno Sederlin, Wilbert Holmquist, and Melvin Peterson (not right sure which is which of the last two boys). The picture was loaned by courtesy of Mrs. Alvin C. Peterson of Scandia.



The number of pupils from 1898 to 1920 was as high as 40 to a low of 20. By courtesy of Elwyn Isaacson this picture is of pupils during the late teens: Front row: Elwyn Isaacson, Wilber Sothers, Joe Etter, Kenneth Woods, Reggie Etter, Marion Etter, Alphild Larson, Ruby Moore, Ruth Benson, Mildred Sederlin, Luella Nelson, Evannah Larson. Second Row: Marvin Larson, Rosemond Madison, Albert Etter, Clarence Hammer, Florence Sederlin, Clarence Moore. Third Row: Wayne Plott, Max Woods, Glada Etter, Gertie Moore, Annie Thomas, Mabel Etter, Jina Moore.

Miss Gwendolyn Glasgow has the school out to play in 1915. This is a south view of Downing School. Note the



change in the entrance on the picture sent by Irwin Nondorf (1935).



This picture belongs to the term 1916-17 with Miss Anna Johnson teaching 24 pupils: Front row - Kenneth

Woods, Georgie Madison, Naomi Figgins, Reggie Etter, Marvin Larson, Blanche Figgins, Alphild Larson, Mildred Sederlin, Edna England, and Wilbur Sothers.

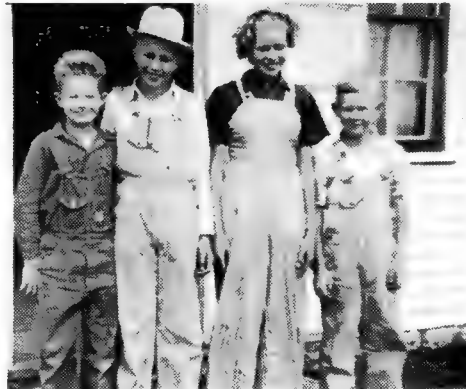
Second Row: Agnes Tedrow, Rosemond Madison, Alberta Etter, Mary England, Florence Sederlin.

Back row: Faye Etter, Mabel Etter, Annie Thomas, Edith Woods, Glada Etter, Marion Madison, Max Woods, Wayne Plott, Clarence Hammer, and Miss Anna Johnson teacher.



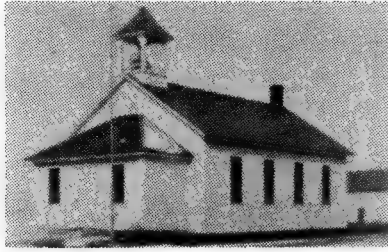
In 1935 there were 14 pupils at District 87: Front row, left to right - Casey Girard, Allen Larson, Carl Johnson, Irvin Nondorf, Edwin Gilmore, Donnie Jensen, Ray Sederlin. Back Row: Ruth Carlson, Helen Carlson, Doris Sothers, Jean Johnson, Harold Larson, Billy Jensen, Edward Larson.

Miss Geraldine Ames was the teacher in 1940 when a Homecoming was held on April 21. There were 111 former pupils registered and 76 visitors.



In 1940-41 Miss Hannah Hansen's school of four pupils were: Jack Barber, Ray Sederlin, Betty Gardner, and Eugene Sederlin.

Roster of Teachers at District 87, Downing School from 1875-1944: B.W. Hallen, Emma Thompson, Della Fancher, Lillie Thompson, Linnet Glasgow, Avada Glasgow, Oberie Earley, Gus Nordmark, Adda Earley, Alma Boyd, Ella Gunter, Myra Crosson, C. L. Babcock, C.C. Bailey, B. Finney, Jennie MPherson, L. Marty, Julie Larson, Glasgow, Pearl Jenks, Stella Booze, R.E. McTaggart, Thressa M. Nelson, Viola Bullen, LaVena Garman, R.E. McTaggart, C.C. Sterba, Madge Boyers, Gay Cameron, Mabel Rosenquist, Chas. Zavodsky 1909, Alfild Larson, Fannie Small, Claude Bettis, Anna Anderson, Esther Larson, Gwendolyn Glasgow, Anna



Johnson, Vera McGregor, Hazel Hammond 1920, Edith Woods 1921, Elvina Falk, Sadie Robison, Ruth E. Wren, Madeline Baxa, Stella Zerbe, Gladys Hyortholm, Bertha Gile, Thelma Larson, Elvie Monson, Geraldine Ames 1940-41, Hannah B. Hanson 1941-42, (No school in 1942-43), Mabel Nelson 1943-44, (No school in 1944-45).

Pupils were sent to other districts in the term of 1942-43; then Miss Mabel Nelson taught the last term at Downing School in 1943-44. Mr. Isaacson says there were not enough pupils to have school, so pupils were again sent to other districts. In 1946 it was voted to discontinue District 87 and unite with Kackley School District 222.

Shortly after the annexation to Kackley, a public auction was held. The two acres of land was sold to Opal Rockhold, and the building was sold to Jim Davis who moved it to his farm where it still stands.

The old schoolground has since had an irrigation canal constructed through it and it has been benched and leveled so that no trace now remains of the old Downing School, District 87.

The Past is written, close the book,  
On pages sad and gay.  
Within the Future, do not look,  
But live Today - Today!

#### DISTRICT 88

What an idyllic setting for this school at the foot of a formidable hill, known and avoided by early-day travelers as Eighty-eight Hill!

During winter when snow covered the ground, this hill was "Joy Hill" for pupils, teachers and young people of the neighborhood who liked sled-riding and tobogganing.

By courtesy of Reynold Nystrom, we have this picture (1909) and the people are: Anton (Jack) Larson, Esther Aberg Johnson, Eric Larson teacher, Ernest Endrud, Albert Endrud, Louis Johnson, Harvey Johnson, Earl Johnson, Roy Endrud, Ferd Olson, Richard Loring, Axel Olson, Carrie Nystrom Johnson, Emily Loring Reece, Mamie Johnson Whiting, Ruby Hay Berry Smith, Edith Smith Norris, Ruby Smith Harold, Esther Smith Wayman, Louise Smith Boone, Tekla Pearson, Olaf Endrud, Carl Aberg, Reynold Nystrom, Arthur Hay, John Nystrum visitor, Charles Wolford, Will Wolford, visitor, Mrs. August Olson, visitor, Mr. Will Wolford, visitor, Mary Nystrum, visitor, Ella Olson and Wolford twin, Mrs. Endrud, visitor, Cora Endrud, visitor, Alma Endrud, visitor, Mrs. A.B. Johnson, visitor, Carrie Aberg, Mabel Olson, Lillie Olson Rhode, visitor, Mr. Endrud, visitor, A.B. Johnson, visitor, Frank Larson, visitor.

During the time when WPA was active, this hill was cut down and became less formidable to the traveler. Digging out rocks in the great hill, workers uncovered many shells, teeth and bones of sea creatures. All this



proved that even the highest hills of the area were once submerged in an inland sea.

One early resident of the district who served on the board for many years recalled the progressive spirit of the community. Eighty-eight was one of the best-kept and well-equipped schools in the county. He pointed out that this was one, if not the only rural school, that for many years kept pace by providing it with a fine library, teaching aids, and free books and other needed materials for the pupils.



One of the earliest pictures of Eighty-eight School was loaned to us by L.G. Nystrom. When Mr. Herman Kuhn taught in 1899, he had 35 pupils: Bottom row - Mabel Olson (Johnson), Hilma Herrman, Alex Johnson, Gust Fogelburg, Ernest Fulcomer, Elmer Fogelberg, Olaf Enderud, Aaran Johnson, Abe Johnson, Oscar Engebretson, Alma Enderud, Lillie Olson (Rodde), Olga Gui. Second row - Ellen Loring (Mahin), Della Hay (Flinn), Pearl Wohlford, Sylvia Fogelberg (Day), May



Cooper, Cora Enderud, Cora Gui, Amanda Olson (Palmquist), Martha Hay (Olson), Laura Fulcomer (Larson), Elmer Gui. Top row - Edwin Olson, Gerda Aberg (Maffey), Anna Bengston, Stella Hay (Scott), Ella Olson (Burns), Ellen Herrman, Mr. Herman Kuhn teacher, Bessie Hay (Brown), Amanda Wohlford (Freed), Harry Gui, Ed Wohlford and Walter Gui.



Here is a picture 82 years old (1894) when J.F. Richardson and a Mr. Bracher who are said to have come from Scandia School. The latter teacher is shown in this picture. There were 48 pupils and sixteen families: 3 from Lars Larson's, 3 from Almquists, Cooper, Gui, Arnold, Smith, Segerhammer, Wohlford, Fogelberg, Flodberg, Olson, Nystrom, 2 Loring girls, Herrman, Hugos, Aberg, Arnold Larson. We are sorry not to be able to identify everyone, but pictures dim and memories fade, or is it visa versa?

Eighty-eight patrons were unique in community spirit which brought them together for programs. The young and the oldest in the district were always ready to participate actively in any activity that was planned.

From the Scandia Journal, March 29, 1934 is an item:  
Program at 88 Dist. School

Patrons and former pupils of School District 88, now taught by Miss Edna Robison, presented a program of songs, reading and dialogs, at the schoolhouse Friday evening.

Among the former pupils who took part in the program were: Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Johnson, Mrs. Ernest Burns, Axel Smith, Carl Aberg, Carl Hugos, Thomas Hay, Jr., Gust Fogelberg, Ed Loring and Reynold Nystrom.

Mrs. Gust Palmquist and Mrs. Victor Palmquist of Concordia, former pupils of the school, were among the visitors.

Following the program light refreshments were served.

From the Scandia Journal Feb. 8, 1940 is an item which seems to show that community spirit was not on the wane:

#### Dist. 88 School Program

The following families of School Dist. 88, Carl Hugos, Einer Eastvedt, Victor Herrman, Axel Smith, Carl Larson and Carl Norgard, called "Southerners" entertained other patrons of the school called "River Rats" and "Hillbillies" with a mock radio-broadcast Monday evening at District 88 with approximately 65 friends attending. The following talent took part in the "broadcast": Ila Marie and Ralph Larson, Miss Ardell Aaker, Loren Hedstrom, Lloyd Barleen, Charles Satterfield, Gene Herrman, Fern Thomas, Maxine Perry, Lorna

Mahan, Ruth Peterson and Woodrow Anderson. Eldon Larson was the radio announcer for the cast. Miss Edna Robison, teacher.

Lunch was served after the program.

District Eighty-eight was established on May 24, 1873 on the east side of the Republican River just 3½ miles south and one mile east of Scandia. A.D. Marble was County Superintendent at the time.

Laura Cameron was hired as the first teacher at a salary of \$18 per month. In those early days as many as sixty pupils attended school at District 88 during the winter months when the "big boys" were not needed on the farm.



Eighty-eight was the first Standard School in Republic County. Esther Isaacson was the teacher at the time, 1915-16. These were her pupils: Top row: Alice Wohlford, Jane Smith, Earl Johnson, Ellen Olson, Arthur Hay, Ruby Smith, Harvey Johnson, Esther Larson, Reynold Nystrom, Ruby Hay, and Louise Smith. Middle row: Edna Olson, Clara Melby, Edith Smith, Pearl Wohlford, Edna Smith, Esther Smith, and Pauline Larson. Front Row: Annie Larson, Ethel Olson, Elmer Melby, Richard Larson, Charles Wohlford, Tommy Hay, and Grace Smith.

A few years later, it was recognized as a Superior School.



Edna Robison holds the record in the district for the longest number of years of teaching service - from 1933 to 1948. In this picture 1946-47 her pupils were: Top row, John Loring, Martha Melby, Carolyn Loring, Bobby Larson,



Earl Melby, and Don Fogelberg. Bottom Row: Don Loring, Jerry Hay, Harvey Melby, Charles Robison, Richard Larson, Everett Robison. School was held in the district until 1952 when it was disorganized and annexed to District 6, Scandia. Mrs. Thressa Kelley was County Superintendent at the time.

From 1950 to 1952 Mrs. Gloria Finley taught at District 88. In 1952 the school was moved to a site just northeast of the Scandia Grade School building where it was used as a music room. Later it was sold and moved to Belleville.



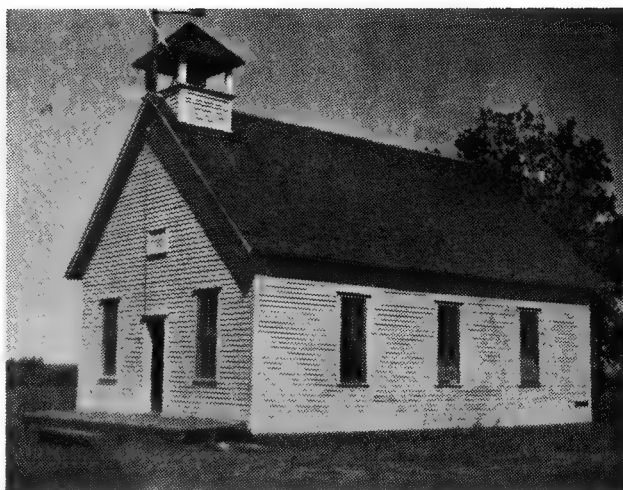
#### Roster of Teachers at District 88

1873 Larua Cameron, 1874 N.A. Norris, 1876 H.T. Sellars, 1877 J.A. Highland, 1878 B. Pehrson, 1879 Lizzie Merica, 1880 Katie Smick, 1882 Miss Forseman, 1882 H.C. Roenis, 1883 May Hodsell, 1885 Minnie Lofthus, 1886 Eva Shaw, 1887 Katie Mallon, 1888 Mrs. Y.G. Glasgow, 1889 Nellie Wilkie, 1890 J.P. Heaton, 1891 Charles Christie, 1892 N.M. Nelson, 1893 A.B. Kimball, 1894 J.T. Richardson, 1895 N.M. Nelson, 1896 W.L. Bowerson, 1898 J.P. Heaton, 1899 J.W. Kuhn, 1900 L.W. Nutter, 1901 Estella Murphy, 1903 Ella Rockhold, 1904 Clarence Kirk, 1905 Frank Hall, 1906-7 John Fraser, 1908 Estella Booze, 1909 Eric Larson, 1910-13 Iva Johnson, 1914-16 Esther Isaacson, 1917-18 Mac Swiercinsky, 1919 Katherine Fletcher, 1920 Clara Melby, 1921-1 Sadie Robison, 1923 Edith Woods, 1925 Pauline Nylund, 1926-7 Helen Loofborrow, 1928-30 Margaret Nelson, 1931-32 Audrey Tedrow, 1933-48 15 continuous years teaching Edna Robison, 1948-9 Ernie Frint, 1950-52 Mrs. Gloria Finley.

#### DISTRICT 89 — SPOONER SCHOOL

This district was originally a part of the Old District 5 and the reader should consult that history. Then in 1873, on April 19, it was organized. It included Sections 18 and 19 and the W½ of Sec. 20 and S½ of Sec. 7 in Elk Creek Township, Sections 13 and 24, the W½ of Sec. 23 and the S½ of Sec. 14 in Grant Township. The first schoolhouse was of limestone and was located at the NW corner of the SW¼ of Sec. 18 in Elk Creek Township. About 1916 or 1917 a new frame schoolhouse was built at the same spot, two and one-half miles west of Agenda and one south.

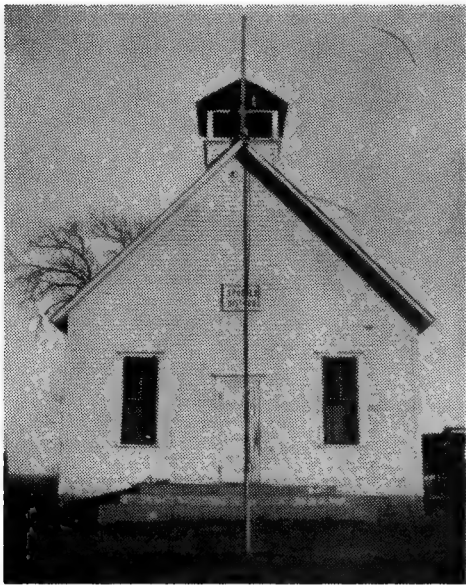
One of the early homestead families was the Elihu Kellogg family. We know that a son Charley went to



Spooner and from his pictures his daughter Carol (Mrs. Robert Jones, Hiawatha, Kans.) sent this picture of a picnic crowd from Spooner on a fishing party on the Republican River northwest of Clyde. This would be about five miles south of the school. The boats furnished a way to get to the most desirable spot to fish as well as entertainment for those dry land lubbers who may not have had a boating experience. We do not know whether they were rented from a farmer in the area or transported via lumber wagons. The sunbonnets are much in evidence as this was the early part of the century.



Miss Frieda Neuvians (Mrs. Otis Kasha) supplied us with this front view of Spooner School and also her pupils when she taught there in 1930-31: Back row, left to right, Edward Kouba, Don Cibolski, Blanche Kouba, Chas. Potuzak, Eva Kellogg, Glen Havel, John Kouba, and



George Meggison. Front row: Harold Meggison, Dorothea Cibolski, Clarence Havel, Maurice Kellogg and Twila Boal.



Following Miss Neuvians, was Leora Mae West as teacher. Her pupils were: Edward Kouba, Clarence Havel, Maurice Kellogg, and John Kouba in the back row, front row were: Edward Potuzak, Harold Meggison, Russell Kellogg, Nettie Meggison, and Ray Gene Salmon. (This picture is by courtesy of Mrs. Gene Snyder, Republic.)

Mrs. Doris D. Smith was the teacher at Spooner School in 1938-39 with Nettie the only girl! We learned the



3R's plus many activities that boys seemed to enjoy. Playing ball, see-saw on teeter-totters, riding the merry-go-round, flying model airplanes, and playing rhythm band were extra-curricular. In the above picture are, left to right: Eddie Potuzak, Harold Fickle, Billy Pickard, Homer Fickle, Russell Kellogg, Ray Gene Salmon, George Fickle, Nettie Fickle, and Bennie Fickle.

Ponies were kept in the stable you see in the background.



Airplane Day was held in March, instead of a Kite Day. In the picture with the airplanes, left to right: George Fickle, Eddie Potuzak, Bennie Fickle, Harold Fickle, Ray Gene Salmon, Homer Fickle, and Russell Kellogg. Nettie Fickle's hand is bringing a model to a "stall" long enough for a snap-shot of it.

#### DISTRICT 90— WHITE LOCK SCHOOL

On May 24, 1873 the people of four sections, namely 29, 30, 31 and 32 of Rose Creek Township, met to organize a school district. As districts were organized it was numbered 90. The first officers were: W. E. Cooper, treasurer; John M. Jones, clerk; J. G. Whitelock, director. Since the site for the schoolhouse was from the Whitelock farm, the school was named Whitelock.

The first school was taught by E. F. Carpenter in 1877 in a dugout on the north side, next to the road, on the farm now owned by John Bainbridge. This present building was built in 1880, costing \$350.00. The first teacher was Mrs. N. H. Boyes with 25 pupils.

The largest number of pupils was 37 taught by Jessie Glenn in 1892. Only seven pupils in 1935 were taught by Miss Lucille Moravek. There have been 48 teachers employed. The least wages paid was \$18.00 to Ida Crain in 1880. The highest salary was paid to Callie Munger in her second year here, \$95.00. There have been 11 men



teachers.

In the back of the first register used, a tabulated list was found, labeled "slate pencils". It could not be determined whether they had used, owned, or lost the number credited to each name. The children of today hardly know what a slate pencil is, even as the children of that day knew little about a "lead pencil".

In the early years it was not unusual for the teacher to be hired for two or three months, but later they were hired for at least an eight-month term. Still later on, many of them taught two terms, but it has remained for Mildred Zack to break the precedent by teaching her fourth term. (1940)

In her notes, Mrs. Ora Moore went on to say that while none of the Whitelock pupils had become famous, most of them have become successful in the work they have chosen. Several have become teachers, some have graduated from college, two are radio entertainers, and many others she had lost track of after they left the district. She hoped that in years to come, boys and girls of upright character would still be learning at Whitelock School, Dist. 90.

After 22 years, another picks up the thread of historical writing to relate that 14 teachers have been added to the list since 1940. Of course some of these under the name of Beck School, but still in the same old Whitelock building. Only six pupils attended school in this last year, 1962. They were: Colleen Trzicky and Linda Dusek in grade 6; Verlee Blecha in grade 5; Sharon Moore in grade 4; Lynn Blecha in grade 2 with Shirley Moore. Chas. W. Horak adds that the Moore family is the only family that has been in the district continuously since it began to the present day, May 20, 1962.

During the added years the people of the district have seen many changes in the large size of farms, the changing economy, the new school laws, etc. all of which have contributed to the closing of many of our schools and, finally, this one. In 1952 we consolidated with our neighbor to the south.

By way of contrast, the final year the teacher's salary was \$450.00 per month. In the dirty thirties that amount often would constitute the entire amount budgeted for the entire year's salary.

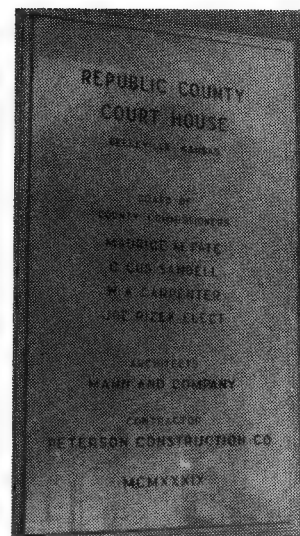
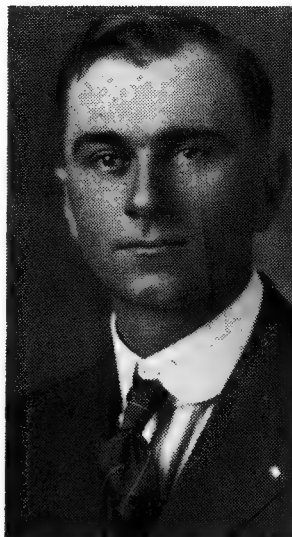
Mrs. Hazel Mulch taught the last years, 1960-62 with Frank Rizek as director and Joyce V. Blecha as clerk.



Mrs. Mulch has loaned a picture when she was interested as a patron of Whitelock during the early 40's.

Children in this picture are, left to right: Donna Faye Hiatt, Raymond Sis, Dixie Mulch, Bobby Kopsa, Georgia Mulch, Betty Mulch, Evelyn Horak, Donnie Kopsa and Marcel Menthla. Three bicycles were on display.

Mrs. Marie Rizek-Bonebrake of Manhattan attended



Whitelock between 1928 and 1935 and from her experience and memory sends us some information we will share:

Her father Joseph Rizek graduated from Munden in 1908 when L. W. Nutter was Co. Supt. and presented the diplomas to the six graduates Andrew McElvain, Benjamin A. Rundus, Lawrence Jones, Joseph Rizek and Earl Strnad. Each of them gave their orations. Emma Adamson was their teacher.

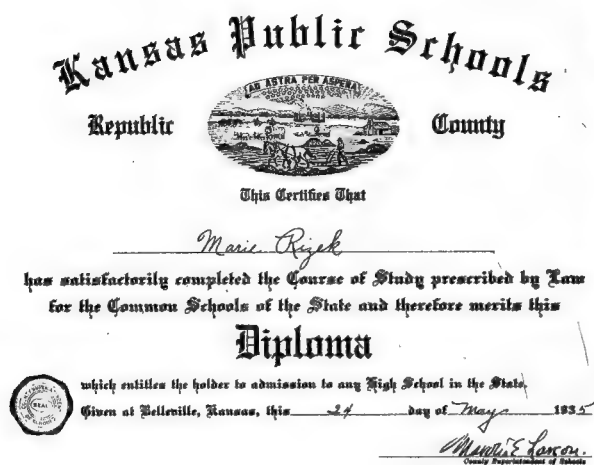
She tells us that her father, a farmer and stockman in Rose Creek Township, was elected County Commissioner just prior to the building of the present Republic County Courthouse. Here is his picture about the time he completed his schooling and also the plaque inside the courthouse showing, Maurice M. Fate, C. Gus Sandell, and W. A. Carpenter as well as Joe Rizek newly elected.



The pupils at Whitelock in 1929 were: (Courtesy Mrs. Bonebrake) Back row: Jennie Vesely, Annie Vesely, Ben Blecha, Samie Segrist, Ernest Blecha, George Sis. Front row: Charles Vesely, Lucille Sis, Mary Vesely, Mildred Blecha, Marie Rizek and Glenn Spafford.

When Marie Rizek Bonebrake writes about her school, she mentions that Miss Iris Kenley (Myers) taught Whitelock in 1933-34. The seventh and eighth grades were preparing to take those final exams in the spring. Her father helped her review for the exams in Kansas history, health habits and physiology and geography that spring as she finished seventh grade. She took her eighth grade subjects of United States history, reading and classics,

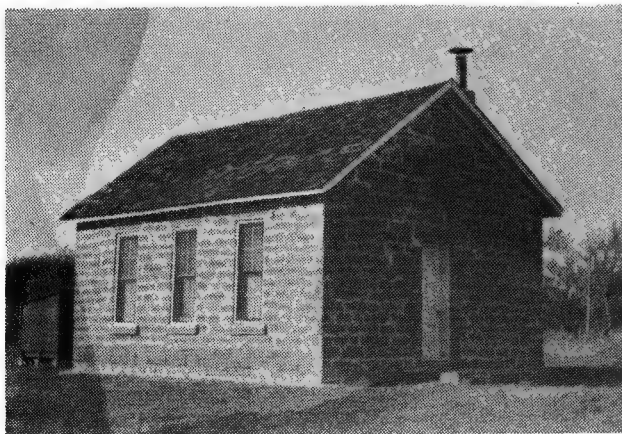




language and grammar, arithmetic, penmanship, spelling, civics and government and agriculture. If in all the subjects you had an average grade of 80 percent or above with no grade below 60, you were given a County Diploma and could then attend high school. Her examinations were at Munden as all schools near-by took them there on two Saturdays at the end of the term. Marvin E. Larson presented diplomas in the Belleville high school auditorium on May 24, 1935 to over 200 graduates.

#### DISTRICT 91—LITTLE STONE OR LITTLE BRICK, ALSO LITTLE ROCK

Little Stone District is on the west side of the Republican River from District 24 Pleasant Valley and comprised about six sections of land.



This picture was taken in 1914 when the board members were: Albert Swanson, C. A. Forsberg, and Ben Golbronson.

When school was discontinued, the land reverted to the Fredrickson farm on which the schoolhouse was located.

On April 29, 1876 Little Stone School Dist. 91 was organized. The site is a little north of the SE corner of Sec. 2 in Courtland Township. It is located about three miles east of Courtland and 2¼ miles north. It is 1¼ miles north of Highway No. 36.



Miss Esther Blackburn (Johnson) taught Little Stone in 1915 and kindly loaned us this picture. From the school souvenir of that year we can give you the names of 14 pupils: Elvira Erickson, Delbert Forsberg, Lottie Anderson, Elda Erickson, Gertrude Magnusson, Vada Forsberg, Oscar Fredrikson, Priscilla Erickson, Ethel Anderson, Lillie Fredrikson, Glada Erickson, Lawrence King, Frances Erickson and Alfred Magnusson. Miss Blackburn's picture is at the right as it appeared upon the souvenir. The motto she chose was "Our greatest glory is not in never failing, but in rising every time we fail".



Miss Julia Hodge has loaned us the later picture after the new Little Brick School was built.

Mrs. Esther Johnson says this was taken April 12, 1935





at a Homecoming.

We note that the Republic County Educational Directory for 1945-46 lists Mrs. Laverne Currie as the teacher with eight pupils. From that year pupils were sent to other districts. The Board Members were: Elmer Danielson, Lloyd Hallgren, and Reuben Fredrickson.

#### **DISTRICT 92. CENTER VALLEY SCHOOL ALSO KNOWN AS THE MOREHEAD SCHOOL**

District 92 was located in Washington Township. Washington township was organized on July 2, 1872. The first school was taught by Miss Flora Miles in about 1871. The first school was built of sod and located one-half mile west of where the school now stands. Due to incomplete records we do not know for sure just why the school was named Morehead unless one of the pioneer Morehead family donated the land for school purposes. Neither can we find when the school house that now stands three miles east of Republic was built or when the name was changed from Morehead to Center Valley, but as far as we can gather this took place around 1895 and D. E. Vance, W. M. Smith, and W. F. Watkins were the school board members. The teacher was D. A. Davies. He taught for eight months at \$42.50. Prior to this date Genie Thompson taught Morehead school from April 14, 1890 to July 1, 1890 for the primary grades with an enrollment of 27, ages 5 to 10. In December of 1889 she taught the grammar grades ages 12 to 18 and with an enrollment of 13, and 17 intermediate grades ages 6 to 14 for two and one-half months but the records did not disclose the months. Other teachers at about this time were Minnie Bailey, Ethel Reeves, Alice Moore, H. E. Clark, and Maude B. Wilkie. The school terms ranged from two months to six months with salaries from \$20 per month to \$35. The enrollment of students was generally from 40 to 50 and ages all the way from 5 to 20. The grades were divided as Primary, Intermediate and Grammar.

In the new frame building Miss Agnes Glenn taught from August 31, 1897 to May 14, 1898, and from September 1898 to April 1899 with an enrollment of 54. Susie Simms also taught near this time. Maud McIntire from September 7, 1891 to October 29, 1891, a fall term with 47 pupils. Jessie Childs from January 1, 1896 to March 27, 1896 with 40 pupils. In 1897 L. Johnson taught for 2 months, enrollment 48. Emery VanNortwick taught in 1904 to 1905 for seven months for \$50 a month with 50 pupils. In 1905 and 1906 Miss Edna Polly taught for seven months at \$47.50 per month.

The years rolled on pupils and teachers came and went. Box suppers, Christmas programs, and community meetings were held at the school house. Two gas heaters replaced the old pot-bellied stove, electric lights were installed and new single seats replaced the two-seaters. A 4-H was organized in the community when Corabell Steward Sweet was the teacher, this organization lasted for many years. Ruth Mead, Mildred Smith, Ruth Elliott Wright, Phyllis Thomas Hofts, Ila Ellingson Swarts, Muriel Reed Tallent, and Ruth Larkins were among the last to teach at Center Valley which were in the years of 1940 to 1952.

Pictures taken in the school term of 1950-1951. Muriel Reed Tallent teacher. Those in the pictures were the pupils that term. They were back row: Charlene Rahe, NaDeane Tallent, Marjorie Daugherty, Marion



Daugherty, Charlotte Rahe, Sarah Daugherty. Front row: Maudie Hallack, Morris Daugherty, and Charles McEwen.

Mrs. Ruth Larkins was the last teacher to teach here for the school term of 1951 and 1952. The enrollment that year was give. They were Marion Daugherty, Sarah Daugherty, Marjorie Daugherty, Morris Daugherty and Maudie Hallack.

At the close of the school term it was voted to consolidate with Districts 52, 70, 97, 79.

These five districts voted to build a new building located just two miles north of Center Valley school and centrally located for the other schools, namely, Center Valley, 92 (Morehead) Washington 52, Center Post, (Mt. Vernon) 70, Ash Grove 79 and Blue Mound 97. The new school was named Washington Center 79. The new school opened in Sept. of 1952 for the school term 1952-1953.

Most of the pupils from the Center Valley School went to Republic to school after the consolidation rather than travel the extra distance and also most of the grade school pupils had older brothers and sisters going to Republic High School.

Thus ended the career of the little school house on the corner but it still stands as landmark and many backward glances in the memories of those who taught and was once a pupil there. By Muriel Tallent.

#### **DISTRICT 93—FAIRVIEW SCHOOL**

In 1872, in Fairview District 93, forty five dollars was raised among the settlers for a three-month term, but no

teacher was available. According to the history compiled by Mrs. David E. Dickerhoof in 1961, "Mrs. Dan Hanson wrote to her sixteen-year-old sister in Illinois saying she could teach the school if she would come to Kansas. She was Lucy Dickerhoof and she arrived by train and on stage on October 10, 1872 in the evening, at Scandia, at Mrs. Gary Hanson's Hotel with no money left after paying her fares. She had chicken, cake, and sandwiches for the journey. There was no one to meet her since her letter had not arrived.

Mrs. Hanson took care of her and the next morning Lucy went with the mail carrier in his buckboard to find her sister, Mrs. Dan Hanson. She taught the first six weeks in Dan Hanson's kitchen and in the fall the second six weeks in Ole Tiller's sod house with the frame top, on the NW¼ of Sec. 21, a mile and a half southeast of Norway. The older boys went to school when there was no work needing to be done at home. The seats were blocks of wood with planks for seats. There were no windows and her father sent her \$14.00 to buy a stove.

The first meeting was held and the district organized June 7, 1873 by Supt. A. D. Marble. The first school board was Mrs. Mary Dutton Arnott, Mr. Brynjulf Stensaas and Mr. Ole Tiller.

The pupils in 1873 were: Charles Pearson, Oxel Larsen, Walter and Willie Meade, Selma Larson, Oscar Hanson, Frank Poore, Andrew Mellen, Ellen and Rachel Merica, Pete Pherson, a Rodgers boy, Lars Hammer, Betty Pherson.

In 1874 at the home of Lars Tiller the annual meeting was held. These officers were elected: S. Lehn, director; O. C. Dickerhoof, clerk; and B. Stensaas, treasurer. A tax was voted for building a school house (1 percent), to pay the teacher's wages (1 percent), and for an incidental fund (2 mills).

In 1875 a motion carried to build a frame house 18 by 27 feet. The building was in 1878 for a cost of \$1009.57. R. Rimal was selected to purchase and install new seats. The board met, inspected and approved the new seats. They allowed the bill of \$59.00 for the seats plus \$8.44 for freight.

In 1874 Lucy Dickerhoof was given a contract to teach in July for \$15.00 and to teach in October for \$20.00.

From 1876 to 1910 these teachers served the Fairview District:

Josephine Taggart	Ella Rockhold
Lafayette Ball	Anna Rimol
O. M. Asne	John Murray
Ada Stivers	Mary E. Wilber
J. O. Osman	Thoressa M. Nelson
Annette Berg	Orven F. Brewer
W. A. Fulcomer	Clara Simpson
Chas. Christie	Viola Miller
LeRoy Jones	Lavinia Garman
J. P. Heaton	Daisy Smith
Pricie Maxwell	

Fairview school. Loaned by C. B. Stensaas, 1912-1913. Back row (l to r) Ellen Larson, Carrie Decker, Addie Thompson, Teacher Edna Nelson. Third row: Orville Eastvedt, Lawrence Eastvedt, Clarence McGregor, Laura Eastvedt, Esther Danielson, Gertie Moore, Frank Moore, Clarence Stensaas, Walter Brewer. Second row: Lloyd McGregor, Joseph Stensaas, Iola Eastvedt, Ima Moore, Beulah Moe, Bill Stensaas, Victor Thompson. Gust Danielson. First row: Jens Stensaas, Allen Kullberg, Lynn Hansen, Douglas Kullberg, Lester Thompson,



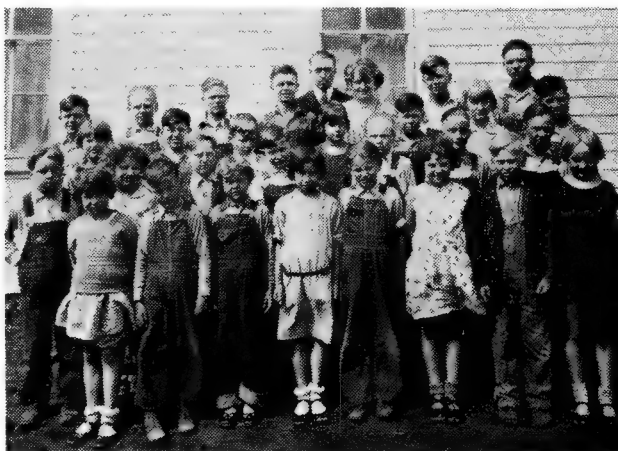
Arthur Boyce, Leonard Stensaas, Ted Decker.

Since many records are unavailable, our reports are incomplete. During 1912-1919, 1923-1952 the teachers of Fairview were:

Margie Carpenter	Oliver Lawson
Amy Thompson	Melvin Smart
Ruth Houghton	Josephine Rogers-Appleby
B. F. Barnett	Geraldine Ames
Dora Warner	Lena Sankey
Frances Figgins	Ruth Sankey
Maude Gile	Ruth Trost
Mrs. Earl Davis	Evelyn V. Smith
Chas. E. Morgan	Orel Davidson
Margaret Wegert	

In 1916 the Norway School hosted a Community Field Day inviting the schools of the surrounding area: Oak Creek, Highland, Forty-Eight, and Fairview. Fairview earned first place. (See the Norway History for this program.) Under the direction of Melvin Smart from 1929-1941, Fairview had a very strong athletic program earning superior ratings in baseball, basketball and track.

In 1926 the organ was sold to the District 48 for \$20.00. A piano was purchased for \$135.00. The money was raised by holding a box supper and selling lunch.



Fairview School 1930. Courtesy of Mrs. Iola Larson. First row: Jennie May Fleak, Veryl Hanson, Ruth Jensen,

Twilene Fleak, Donald Vollan, Elizabeth McGregor, Carrol Thompson, Dorothy Stensaas. Second row: Milford Carlson, Ila Marie Larson, Floyd Thompson, Edwin Vollan, Arthur Carlson, Lyle Hanson, Archie Brewer. Third row: Rosie Jenses, Kermit Dyrdaahl, Lyle Medlin, Margaret Stensaas, Owen Gene Brewer, Alice Kullberg, Charles McGregor. Fourth row: Lawrence Jensen, Maurice Medlin, Morgan Hanson, John Brewer, Melvin Smart, teacher, Florene Stensaas, Joe Billy Brewer, and Julius Jensen.

On April 6, 1953 a special meeting was called to vote for or against annexation to Norway, Con. 3. The vote was for annexation. The board members were: Julius Jensen, clerk; Leslie Stensaas, treasurer and Joe Dutton,



director. From 1945-1950 Miss Evelyn Smith taught Fairview school and these are her pupils in April 1950. Back row, left to right: Marla McGregor, Jeanneane Thompson, Miss Smith the teacher, Martha Larkins and Loyale Jensen. Front row: Gerald McGregor, Gary Larkins, Fred (Bud) Dutton, and Dennis (Doc) Jensen.

Note: Ronnie Jensen is "hidden" behind Martha Larkins, you can see her arm, and Jean Jensen was absent.

This was one of the good schools of the county and rated highly for the library and equipment were among the best at the time.

On April 22, 1953 the school board of Con. 3, Ivan C. Carlgren, director; Archie N. Brewer, clerk and Harold R. Hammer, treasurer accepted the annexation of Dist. 93 and would be known as Jt. Con. 3 R. C.

Mr. Orel Davidson taught the last term in 1951-1952.



He took this lovely picture of the school and four pupils: Virgene Jensen, Jean Jensen, Dennis Jensen, and Loyale Jensen (left to right) as they play in the remaining snow south of the building.

Clarence Knowlton of Randall purchased the schoolhouse and moved it to Randall. Lars Tiller had sold the land to Dist. 93 for \$5.00. Clarence Stensaas paid \$185.00 for it when the school closed 80 years after it was organized.

#### DISTRICT 94 - DRY LAKE SCHOOL

The photographs of Dry Lake School, District No. 94 were taken before World War I. by Joseph George Rizek, who took and developed his own photographs as a hobby.



His wife Rosalie Ruth Rost went to Dry Lake school and she is shown standing on the porch of the school in the second photograph. Rosalie's "pupil's monthly report" shows that in 1896 when she was 12 years old she took Reading, Spelling, Writing, Drawing, Language, Arithmetic, Geography, Grammar, History, Physiology, Rhetoricals. Her teacher that year was Anna Jehlik and the card was signed by Rosalie's father, Frank Rost. A numerical grade was given for each subject as "100 indicates excellent; 95, very good; 90-95, good." Rosalie told her daughter that her favorite subjects were reading, geography and history and her life long interest in these subjects was evidenced by her love to read and travel.



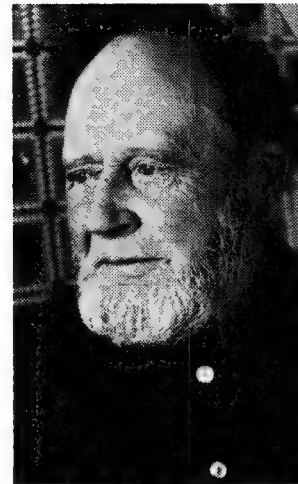


The card covered a period of four months. School was from end of corn shucking session to spring. "Reward of Merit" cards were presented to pupils. Some were colorful floral and scenic combinations or colorful figures, front and back, and edged with silk fringe. Rose Rost received cards from B. E. Pessonett, Fannie Frost, Anna Jehlik (Anna Jehlik Rost), Alice Savage, E. M. Palmer, U.S.G. Bowersox, E. J. George, Zury Slocum. Anna Rost, Rosalie's sister-in-law, was her last teacher. One of the cardboard floral and scenic cards was signed on the back "Rose Rost, Best wishes of your teacher. Fannie Frost."

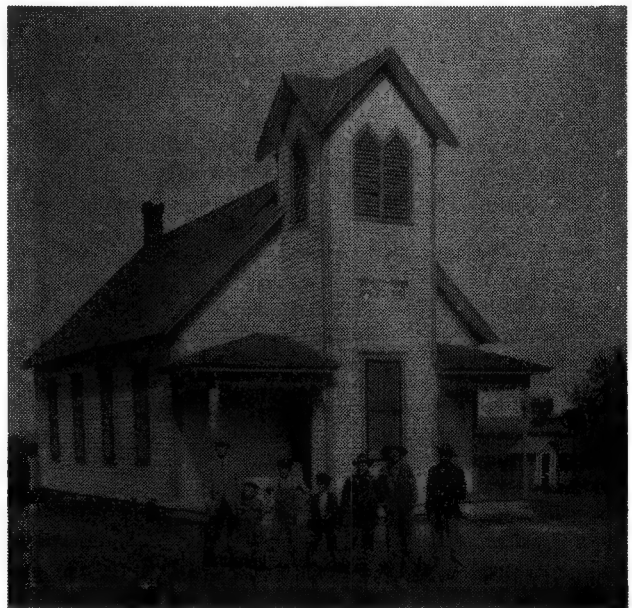
#### DISTRICT 95 - HUNGRY HOLLOW SCHOOL

A very early subscription school was held in a dugout in a bank very near the place where Hungry Hollow School was built later. Alfa Scott Moore attended this school, which was on the Scott place located west of the Republican River and on the south side of what is now Highway 148.

In this picture is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Erastus Stanton on whose land the first school building was placed. They gave two acres at the southeast corner of what is now the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Johnson in Sec. 18 - 4 - 4, on the north side of 148 Highway.



Mr. Louis Spivey, who married Annie Stanton, came from Minneapolis, Kansas especially to visit with a group of "history hounds" concerning this almost forgotten school. We marvelled that the playground was so large and he said that Grandpa Stanton had remarked that "there was lots of ground and so the school should have plenty of it." We found the old foundation of the first frame building that burned and near-by was the pipe sticking out of the ground where the pump had been. The second and larger schoolhouse was built just a ways farther south on the same grounds. It was noted that the water had to be carried quite a ways to the new building.



Mr. Spivey recalled that there had been a cattle trail along the top of the hills northeast of the school which seemed to be following the west side of the River. The school children would sometimes see cattle herds being driven along this trail to the southeast. After they had passed, the children ran up there to sometimes find a newborn calf left by the trail. It was taken care of so that it might help get them through the winter. Perhaps this was where Hungry Hollow got its name. "They were poor and always hungry," said Mr. Spivey.





Here is a picture of one of the teachers, Blanche Griffith, who taught in the "dug-out School."



These "tintypes" are: Annie Stanton, 1880; Annie Stanton, and the Hungry Hollow graduates in 1888-89 with Lista Wharton the teacher. Annie Stanton is seated by her



teacher, now quite a young lady. We felt everyone would enjoy the dresses of that early day. Some were made by dress-makers, and others were sewn at home by skillful mothers.

Hungry Hollow was organized as a District 95 on July 19, 1873 although school had been held before that. The determining factors were money and teachers. One of the earliest graduates was Andy Moore and the district presented him with a gift. Some other early teachers were: Margie Stanton, Grace Carney, and May Dickerhoof Carney.

During her first year of teaching, the school house burned down, and she finished the term teaching in an upstairs at the Bill Dunlap home in the school district. She was eighteen when she began teaching school and often some of her pupils were boys who were older than she was as they went to school only when there was no work to do on the farm. Her year of teaching at Hungry Hollow was very frustrating. That year she had an unusually large number of young men in school who frequently decided to crawl out of the window and go have a smoke.

Both teachers and funds were scarce in the 70's. School was held whenever possible and the terms ran from twelve to twenty weeks. In the fall of 1873 eight young people boarded a lumber wagon and went to Clyde to take a teachers' examination given by Sam Doran of Clyde and Mr. Robinson, Prin. of Concordia Schools. They stayed a week with Mrs. Langworthy and she did not charge them board or lodging. They all received the certificates to teach. They were: Lucy Dickerhoof, Josephine Taggart, Rose Patrick, Nancy Shrader and her brother, Emma Patrick, Ferd Kunkel and one other boy.

## Hungry Hollow School, 1900-1901.

District Officers.		
Director, W. Scott.	Clerk, W. J. Dunlap.	Treasurer, James Robertson.
Scholars.		
Thurston Dunlap,	Alice Anderson,	Ole Olson,
Hilma Johnson,	Martha Chapman,	Esther Johnson,
Ida Nelson,	Alpha Larson,	Aby Johnson,
Esther Larson,	Charley Robertson,	Agnes Robertson,
Anton Johnson,	Esther Peterson,	Anna Johnson,
Daniel Robertson,	Fani Olaf,	Minnie Olson,
Manuel Turnquist,	Kate Terrel,	Thomas Turnquist,
Sven Larson,	Fred Olson,	Amli Olson,
Bertha Peterson,	Luther Peterson,	Pearl Terrel,
Clarence Anderson,	Alba Rogers,	Leonard Anderson,
Logan Scott,	Ralph Dunlap,	Alvin Johnson,
Winslow Dunlap,	Oscar Peterson,	Carl Rambo,
Della Rambo.	G. F. Brewster, Teacher.	



In 1908 the last Board to serve Dist. 95 was: W. J. Dunlap director; Alex Scott, clerk; and W. F. Holgerson, treasurer. That year Hungry Hollow consolidated with

Norway, one of the few consolidated districts in Republic County. It was Consolidated District 3.

The Hungry Hollow Schoolhouse was moved to the Alex Scott place and used in the construction of his farm home on the south side of Highway 148 west of the Republican River bridge.

#### DISTRICT 96 - COURTLAND CENTER OR CENTER SCHOOL

Center School as it was familiarly known, was located one mile south and a mile east of Courtland on "Public Lands" which was bought from the government by a Peter Larsson on May 10, 1882. This tract included the W½ of the NW¼ of Sec. 27 in Courtland Township.



This photo is loaned by Taylor Clark. The picture was taken by Mae Glasgow, photographer, in 1904-'05. Left to right (back row) Rose Barber, Teacher; Alma Olson, Edith Olson, Elna Peterson, Annie Anderson, Minnie Olson, Everst Wray, Howard Bevers. 2nd row: Helena Olson, Earl (Glasgow) Clark, Edith Freeman, Arthur Larson, Edith Peterson, Arvid Larson, Minnie Freeman, Clyde Durham, Elmer Lundberg, Raymond Durham, Fred Lundberg. Bottom row: Aline Peterson, Minnie Anderson, Zada Bevers, Ellen Lundberg, Agnes Peterson, Florence Anderson, Ethel Freeman, Selma Lundberg, Freddie Anderson, Ernest Freeman, Charles Durham, Frank Wray. Not pictured: Henry Peterson.

Construction of the schoolhouse was completed in the fall of 1873 according to members of the Olaf Anderson family (early settlers). The organization meeting was first held on Dec. 31, 1873, but the final organization came Jan. 32, 1874. Undoubtedly, there had been subscription school previous to this.

Miss Gwendolyn Glasgow of Salina wrote that in 1872 Taylor Glasgow, his wife Avada and baby Mae moved here to live and each taught at various times in Center School. He also served either as first or fourth probate judge of Republic County. History dates differ.

According to another report, the first known teacher was Mrs. J. T. (Avada) Glasgow and that she taught this school six years, not successively, enduring the difficulties of pioneer life. She and her husband, J. Taylor

Glasgow, homesteaded the land one mile south of the school.

Early Board members were (1879-1913): J. T. Glasgow, S. Hollen, A. Buchner, Frank Freeman, J.T. Sothers, Nicholas Marty, F. W. Yerian, Aaran Anderson, W. A. Glasgow, James Wilkins, H. J. Anderson, P. G. Larson, C. W. Farncher, E. M. Sothers, V. Falk and Alfred Lundberg.

At the Annual meeting in 1881 the installation of lightning rods was approved. In 1882 a 4-month school term was approved. Two years later F. J. Wilkins was allowed \$1 to haul coal. In 1885 the district voted to have a 6-month term of school, hiring the teacher for a 3-month term and then renewing the contract.

Miss Della Babcock taught a 124-day term (Sept 6 - Mar. 16) in 1887 with the first listing of pupils available: Anna Anderson, Charlie Anderson, Jessie Boyd, Mellie Boyd, Simon Brown; Johnny, Maggie and Sarah Craig, Mae Glasgow, Charlie Johnson Oscar Keplinger, Albert Lind, Harry Loring, Newton Marty, Willie Miller, Andrew Nelson, Tilda Nelson, Axel Samuelson, Shed Samuelson Elmer Sothers, Jessie Sothers, Ettie Summer, Joe Summer, John Swan, Arthur Thomas, Merl Thomas, Archie Wilkins, Charlie Williams; Anne, Fred, George, Jessie and Katie Yerian. The Board members were: J. T. Glasgow, T. W. Yerian and J. T. Sothers. The 34 pupils enrolled ranged in ages from 6 to 18 and one pupil, John Swan, age 28. He was of Swedish descent and is believed to have enrolled to learn the English language.



Husking corn in the fall and planting oats in the spring kept older boys out of school so that many of them did not get to complete their eighth grade until they were 17 or more years old - often older than the teacher.

With the organization of Courtland 46 and District 74 in 1888, the enrollment at Center was less. In 1891 at the Annual meeting it was decided to extend the normal school term of six months to seven as J. T. Glasgow reported that there were funds available in the treasury.

In 1893-94 Nettie Northrup had 16 pupils; 1894-95 Mr. S. J. Henry taught 30 pupils; 1895-96 Sadie Heldt received \$28 per month for teaching 33 pupils.

At the board meeting it was decided to "sink a well." Mrs. Larson was hired to clean the schoolhouse for \$2 and Robert Brewer was allowed 50 cents a ton to haul coal.

The term of 1896-97 was taught by Ona Glasgow (sister of J. T.) for \$25 a month and 35 pupils. At this time it was decided to put in a new floor and a new ceiling.

Mary Hoel was the next teacher and during the term married John Larson, Arvid Larson's uncle. She had a salary of \$25 a month and 35 pupils.

Now the baby Mae Glasgow had grown into the teaching role and taught the 1898-99 term for \$35 a month with 31 pupils.

Some of the teachers from 1900 were: Julia Riter, Myrtle Phillis, Pearl Haning, Emmet Boylan, Laura Brown, Rose Barber, Florence Humphrey, Belle Robb, Edna Roberts, Ruth Blackburn, Rev. Levi W. Scott, Beatrice Patterson, Sadie Decker, Zella Hayes, Fay Ward and Beula Woodruff.



This photo is shared by Clarence Freeman. The picture was taken in 1907-'08. Back row: (left to right) Arvid Larson, Darrell Stanley, Florence Humphrey, teacher; Helena Olson, Fred Lundberg, Earl Clark. 2nd row: Ellen Lundberg, Fred Anderson, Aline Peterson, Minnie Freeman, Edith Freeman, Elmer Lundberg, Ernest Freeman. 3rd row: Allan Larson, Florence Anderson, Ethel Freeman, Agnes Peterson, Selma Lundberg, Gertrude Sothers, Harry Larson. Bottom row: Hilma Freeman, Clarence Freeman, Archie Anderson, Elmer Anderson, Elder Sothers.



This picture is shared by Eula Hurtig. It was taken in 1913-'14 and evidently by the teacher, Rev. Levi W. Scott

since he is not pictured. Top row: Fred Anderson, Ellen Lundberg, Agnes Peterson, Elmer Anderson, Allan Larson. 4th row: Harry Larson, Selma Lundberg, Gertrude Sothers, Hilma Freeman, Russell Anderson, Chester Anderson. 2nd row: Beulah Olin, Eula Anderson, Mable Freeman, Delphia Larson Hazel Houghton. Bottom row: Ethel Freeman, Carl Peterson.



Miss Ella Smith (Swenson) was the teacher of these boys and girls in 1927: Elizabeth Anderson, Edith Larson, Deloris Larson, Sidney Chadd, John Chadd, Robert Chadd, Edwin Clark, Helen and Taylor Clark.

Other teachers were: Ruth Bland, Florence Swanson, Lucille Elliot, Treva Warren, Ethel Johnson and Hannah Hansen.



Miss Hansen's pupils were (1935-36) front row - Gerald Sothers, Evelyn Larson, Paul Clark and Audrey Lundberg. Middle row: Genevieve Hedin, John Band, Winifred Larson, Gerald Lundberg and Elnor Larson. Back row: Richard Lundberg, Wilma Larson, Arvid Band and Dean Woods.

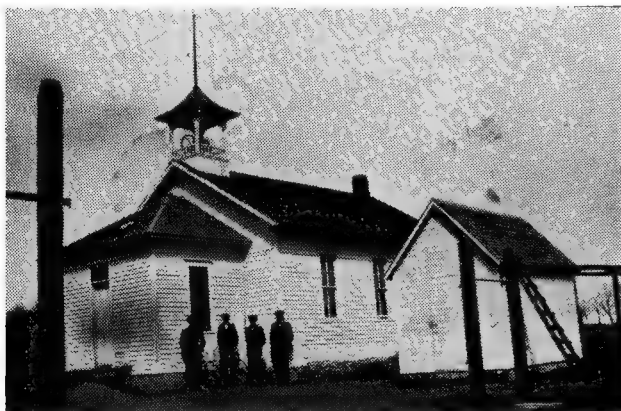
The next teacher were: Madeline Anderson, Arden Nelson, Edith Knapp, Frances Curtis, Caroline Street, Mary (Jansky) Gardner, and Alice Clark.

In 1907 a cistern was dug, in 1910 a storeroom (cloak and washroom) was added and a cupola on the roof. A bell was acquired later.

As was true of many other schools, Center was a Community meeting place. A Presbyterian Church held services here, the Courtland Mission Church held daily Vacation Bible School here, Ada Lutheran Church held services here prior to the building of their church in the fall of 1877. A class of 12, an additional 6 from Scandia,



were confirmed here. The last term of school for Dist. 96 was 1945-47 with four pupils. They were: Ralph, Maurice and Ronald Sothers; Paul Freeman and Alice Clark was the teacher.



This picture is shared by Glenwood Lundberg showing another view of the school and playground.

Courtland Center consolidated with Courtland Con. 2 in 1946. The last Board members were Arvid Larson, Mrs. Elder Sothers and Ernest Freeman.



This is Center School prior to the sale June 22, 1949. It had been vacant since the last 1945-46 school term. It was taken by Alma Olson and loaned by Myrtle Nondorf.

A public sale was held on June 22, 1949 with Babe Evert as the auctioneer, C. C. Green as clerk and the school building, fuel house, two out-buildings, playground equipment and contents went over the block to the highest bidders. The one-acre tract reverted to the original owner and the \$25 was reimbursed. DeWayne Marty bought the school building, dismantled it and used the lumber for houses built in the Courtland area. Edgar Mainquist bought the bell, but found it too large for their use and gave it to the Mission Covenant Church for their use. They could not use it either, so returned it to Mainquists. Lawrence Nondorf bought it for \$10 and it is now in use at Lincoln Nebraska's Northeast Y.M.C.A. Camp. So ends the colorful history of Center School.

#### DISTRICT 97 - BLUE MOUND SCHOOL

Blue Mound School District 97 was organized on February 21, 1874, located 2 miles east and 4 north of

Republic City in Washington Township in the S.W. corner of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 4. The Board members were: A.B. Simmons, H.C. Schwartz and J. Stewart.

Bowman Waite deeded the land to the school district on January 20, 1883--9 years after the organization date. Surrounding districts, 79, Ash Grove, held their 1st meeting August 12, 1872 and 52, Washington, held theirs December 23, 1871. When consolidation became apparent, Blue Mound, Dist. 97, Washington, Dist. 52, and Mount Vernon, Dist. 70, all became a part of Ash Grove, Dist 79 and this later became known as Washington Central.

In 1894-95, H.E. Clark was the teacher for a 9 month term at \$40 a month. J.M. Voils, A. B. Simmons and H.C. Swartz were the board members. Tom Charles was the teacher in 1895-96. J. Stewart, A.B. Simmons and H.C. Swartz were the board members.



We are indebted to Mrs. Ward Aurand for this 1896-97 term-of-school picture. It is Rosemound School when J.S.C. Spickerman was the teacher. Beginning with the back row are: Mr. Spickerman the teacher, Archie Bates, Alice Powell, Luella Powell (Myers), Edith Powell, Julia Hurley (Gritten), James Hurley, Ray Gillilan, Gardner Bates, John Bucknell, Carl Bates and Harry Sweet.

On the front row: Wm. J. Straub, Kate Straub (Wurtz), Etta Straub (Wurtz), Dolly Straub (Steier), Tom Hurley, Tom Powell, Anastasia Hurley (Goin), Kate Hurley (Reinhart), Johanna Hurley (Sharraden), Ella Hurley (Levendofsky), Fielding S. Sweet, Mildred Aurand (Steier), Lenora Aurand (File).

The next directory available was the 1904-05. Bertha McEwen taught 7 months at \$37.50. W.J. Dankinbring of Byron, N. Montgomery, Byron and F.W. Tavener, Republic were chosen as board officers.



In 1910-11 while Miss Elsie Morehead was teaching Mabel Henderson had this picture. As their faces appear from the left: in the back row, Leona Kirby, Carrie Cherney, Clarence Larkins, June Goebel, Winnie Larkins, Miss Morehead, Violet Larkins in front of the teacher,



Corley McNitt, Charley Parker, and Irvin McNitt. The five on the front are: Mabel Larkins (Henderson), Faye McNitt, Floyd Kirby, Clifford Larkins and Glen Goebel.

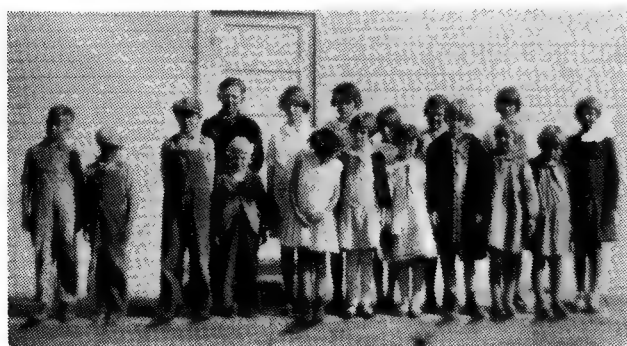
Elsie Morehead taught in 1910-11, an 8-month term at \$55 a month. The board members were D.H. Larkins, F.W. Bruns and E.A. Simms.



Mabel Henderson has shared this picture that was taken about 1911 or 1912 when Clara Muth was the teacher of nine boys and thirteen girls. She was unable to identify all, but in the back row are John Heitsman, George Bruns, Elmer Larkins, skip a girl, Winnie Davidson, Miss Clara Muth teacher. In the middle row: Clarence Larkins, Violet Larkins, then the little girl with a plaid dress is Mabel Larkins (Henderson). At the end of middle row is Lawrence Larkins and in front of him is Emma Dittmer. We are sorry we cannot introduce the six little gentlemen in front either! We shall leave that to the reader who knows.

In 1922-23, Faye Salmon was the teacher and C.C.A. Bentler, T.F.W. Bruns and D. John Kruger were the board members. Her pupils were Bettie Grueber, Ernest, Otto, Fred, Albert, Emma, Sophia, Herman and Frieda Kroeger; Bernedetta, Archie and Lewis Mitchell; Vernon, Esther, Ella and Dickie Weirs; Bessie and Guilda Hayes; Johanna, Frieda and Edwin Dittmer; Gussie, and Alvin Hietman; Helen Beutler; Wilma Campbell.

Dee Haptonstall taught for \$85 in 1930-31. Louis Jens, F.W. Bruns and John Kroeger were members of the board. Pupils were Helen Jens; Elsie Peterson; Rex, Grace Edith, Gratia Rose, and Mable Hayes; George, Hilda, Arnold, Sylvia and Lola Grueber; Hilda, Rosie, Marie and Otto Kroeger; Lenna May Haptonstall; Floyd Klunder; Lorene, Raymond, Vernon and Elmer Bruns.

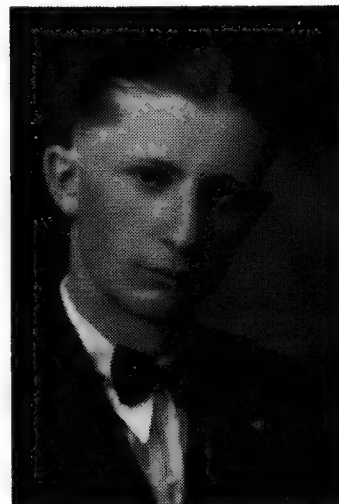


From Mrs. Florence Mohrman has shared some pictures of pupils at Blue Mound in 1930-31. These 17

children are: back row - Otto Kroeger, Lola Grueber, Millie Grueber, Rose Kroeger, Betty Grueber, Marie Kroeger, Mable Hayes. Front row: Arnold Grueber, Karl Peterson, Floyd Klunder, Leo Grueber, Hilda Grueber, Hilda Kroeger, Lenna May Haptonstall, Sylvia Grueber, Grace Edith Hayes, Gratia Rose Hayes and Mable Hayes.

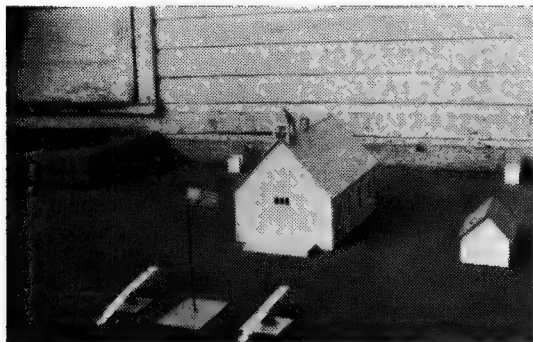


In this 1931 picture are: back row - Marie Kroeger, Otto Kroeger, ———, Lola Grueber, Floyd Klunder. Middle row: Mable Hayes, Rose Kroeger and Sylvia Grueber. Front row: Arnold Grueber, Hilda Kroeger, Gratia Rose Hayes, Grace Edith Hayes, Hilda Grueber, Lenna May Haptonstall.



J.D. Haptonstall, known as Dee, was a teacher of Blue Mound from January 1929 to April 1938. He "weathered the Depression Years" in the same school, which speaks well for him at a time when teachers were "A dime a dozen." After teaching 1938-39 at Dist. 9 west of Belleville, he moved to Colorado to farm. In 1955 he retired and moved to Wray, Colo.

While Dee Haptonstall was teaching at Blue Mound, he and the pupils (below) constructed a tiny replica of the school. In the picture it is on the front steps of the school, but ordinarily it holds a place of prominence on top of the piano. We do not know upon what scale the model was built, but there was bound to have been much teaching of measurements and then the reduction to those measurements to the fractional proportion. What good motivation when children learn with the realization of a



useful purpose by immediately applying the skill!

In the teacher's register, Dee Haptonstall recorded that the fifth grade girls finished sewing the curtains to be used for programs by "hemming the edges and putting in rings for the wire."

Jan. 25 "Wienie roast for school in Mr. Eitzman's pasture."

Apr. 12 - "Picnic for school at Pawnee Park, Republic, Kans. Took dinner at noon, then went for a hike over the hills to Pawnee Monument."

Apr. 23 - "Last Day of School - Dinner at noon and a short program at 3:00 p.m."

Jessie May Simms reports a Halloween program and social Nov. 2, 1923 for money to buy reference books. Hot lunches for a part of the school."

Apr. 10, 1924 - "Rural school track meet - made 24 points."

Mrs. James Sorick reported having a box supper and

program at Thanksgiving. "Money used to buy organ and dictionaries"

Mar. 27 - In spelling contest at Washington - three won.

Alta M. Sherrill reports a box supper on Dec. 3rd - "Money used to buy a Victrola and a large dictionary."

Miss Ella M. Mueller was the teacher in 1941-42 for a salary of \$60. The board members were Louis Jens, Roy Campbell and John Grueber. Pupils were Joan, Mervin, Shirley, Weldon and Berdine Conzelman; Esther, Delores and Angela Jens; Martin Kroeger; Marvin Bruns; Arland and Florence Eitzman; Darlene Witke. This was the last teacher and the last pupils in this district. After 1942, the pupils were sent to other districts.

District 97 was disorganized and annexed to District 79 by vote of residents of 97 as of July 1, 1951. The land on which the schoolhouse stood was to revert to the original quarter section whenever the land was no longer used for school purposes. Louis Jens was the owner of the original land and no money was involved in the transfer. The schoolhouse and contents, and other buildings sold for \$592.00 on Dec. 16, 1951, a bitterly cold day that Frank Novak was auctioneer and the Co. Supt. Mrs. Thressa Kelly did not attend. District 52, Washington school and District 70, Mt. Vernon, also went to 79 Ash Grove. District 52 sold Dec. 21, 1951.

List of teachers from 1920: Elsie Sankey, Faye Salmon, Dee Haptonstall, James Haptonstall, Verneal Rahe, Ella Mueller.

Board members at the close of school were A. Kroeger, I.H.E. Seybold and J.H. Grueber. April 13, 1951 a special was called to annex Blue Mound to Ash Grove, Dist. 79. Three days later Ash Grove voted to accept the annexation to their district. On April 20, Dist. 52 Washington voted to annex totally to Ash Grove, 79. Then Dist. 70 Mount Vernon voted to annex totally to 79. The next year, 1951, these four districts and Center Valley, Dist. 92 voted to build their new schoolhouse just two and 3/4 miles north of Center Valley school.

#### DISTRICT 98—MERCER SCHOOL

This picture of Mercer School 3 1/2 miles west and 2 south of Talmo, about 1910-11 when Miss Johnson was the teacher. There were several not present that day, but in the back row are: Emma Johnson, teacher, Jessie Kimmel, Irene Clark, Naomi Wilson, Susie Nutter, and



Frank Clark. Front row: McKinley Nutter, Bertha Wilson, Lucille Nutter, Helen Wilson, Fred Nutter, blank, Russell Kimmel, Marvin Kimmel and Mary Jackson. The pictures and much of the research are courtesy of Mrs. Frances Kimmel Elyea.

Records show that on March 26, 1874 Mercer District was organized but that fact was pre-determined by an event so typical of other schools that we want to share that event with our readers. On April 25, 1872 six families who had been schoolmates left Mercer County, town of Viola, Illinois in covered wagons. They were: Mr. and Mrs. David Galloway, Belle, Madison and Robert; Mr. and Mrs. Levi Kimmel with four children, Anna, Charles, Joe and Will; Mr. and Mrs. Asa Burch and three children; Mr. and Mrs. William Stewart and his brother Sam whose wife and baby daughter came later by train; Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Park and baby daughter Celia of nine months. There were fourteen adults and eight children, seven good teams and wagons loaded with such things as were thought to be most useful, as well as a few loose horses and a number of cows.

All of them met at a convenient spot about 11:00 a.m. where they found a goodly number of friends and relatives waiting to bid them "Good-by" and "Godspeed." The teams were fed, the noon lunch eaten and goodbyes said. They started west.

With unrelenting determination that caravan met each obstacle-the Mississippi crossing at New Boston into Iowa- passing Northfield, Morning Sun, Crawfordville, Washington, Oskaloosa and Belle Fountain where they crossed the Des Moines River by ferry. The cattle and Burch's dog swam across the river...on through Indianola, Quincy, red Oak and Shenandoah...crossing the Missouri River by ferry at Nebraska City. They passed through Fairbury and the Otoe Indian Reservation into Kansas by way of Washington and Haddam...arriving at Hollis on May 28, 1872 (a little more than a month) where friends and old neighbors had moved out the year before. They made camp and visited for several days.

Some vacant claims were to be had yet and they rode on horseback to look them over. The following day a trip was made to the land office in Concordia to get the numbers of those vacant claims.

On the next day all drove over and camped near a running stream where stock could be watered and they could get water for cooking. Very carefully they looked over the claims and selected seven that were thought to be the best. The number for each claim was written on a slip of paper. The slips of paper were shaken up in a hat and each man drew out a number which was to be his claim. Everything was done with perfect harmony and the very best of good will.

The long trip had been enjoyed very much; there had been no sickness nor serious accident along the way; they had always rested themselves and their teams on Sundays and attended church services if a church were near. Robert Galloway had a violin and frequently entertained the crowd around the campfire.

Soon after getting settled on the claims, some would occasionally attend church at Concordia, but this required the fording of the Republican River which was somewhat dangerous at times. Soon there were church services at Sibley, at the Zion School south of Talmo, and also at Mr. Bennett's fine large dug-out. As soon as the school district was formed in 1874, a small stone

schoolhouse was built in the NE corner of Sec. 33 and named Mercer after the county in Illinois where they had lived. Church services were held in the Mercer School for ten years before the United Presbyterian Church was built in the SE corner of Sec. 29- one mile west of the schoolhouse.

One of the earliest records at the Belleville Courthouse shows that on July 14, 1879 The Independent Series of textbooks was adopted by the District School Board for Mercer to be used "in said district for a term of five years beginning July 14, 1879." Signed by J.E. Galloway, Dist. Clerk. In 1884, five years later, McGuffey's Readers were adopted, along with Independent Complete Speller, Monteith Elementary Geography, Monteith Comprehensive Geography, Leek's First Lessons in Numbers, Davis and Leek's Brief Arithmetic, Davis and Leek's Complete Arithmetic, Clark's Easy Lessons in Language, Clark's Brief Grammar, and Barne's Brief History of United States.

We assume that until Sept. 15, 1881 the pupils had been seated on slab benches or other home-made desks were used, because on that date "In exercise of the authority granted by the action of special meeting held Dec. 18, 1880 the building committee purchased seats for the school house from Thos. Lane and Co., Chicago, issuing therefore, an order on district treasurer for \$120 due in July, 1884. Order to draw ten percent interest." Signed by R.H. Galloway, clerk. Then on July 8, 1884, the treasurer T.J. Eakers paid seventy-five dollars on the seats furnished by Thos. Lane and Co. The balance drawn in two orders due, one in September, 1885 and one in 1886. July 20, 1887 the school desk notes were paid off the previous year. Signed by M. Kempton.

The earliest record of a teacher is 1882 when Ida McCullough was at Mercer. Then the records show: 1884--Rose Carbutt April 21-June 13 29 pupils; 1884--Lillian Kaucher Sept. 15-Mar. 13, 1885 29 pupils; 1885--Effie Newburn Apr. 6-June 26 26 pupils; 1885--Fannie L. Barber Sept. 22-Apr. 16, 1886 40 pupils; 1886--Annetta McCrea Sept. 20-Dec. 10 37 pupils. She made her home with Reuben Scofield family south of U.P. Church.; 1887--Effie Newburn Apr. 4-June 14 28 pupils; 1887--Lou Porter 9 months-Sept. 19-June 13, 1888 43 pupils. Closed Dec. 9 and 2nd term began in January.; 1888--Charles H. Kimmel Oct. 1-Dec. 21 26 pupils. Mrs. Frances Elyea was six years old when her father taught. Dec. 31- Mar. 23, 1889 39 pupils; 1889--Effie Newburn; 1890--Bertha Clark Sept. 28-Oct. 23; 1891--Ella Miller Oct. 26-Nov. 20; 1891-92--Bessie Spickerman (three separate contracts); 1892--Letita Thorn Feb. 29-Apr. 8 18 pupils; 1894--Beatrice E. Lathrop Sept. 3-Nov. 60 days; 1895--Mertie Murphy Feb. 25-May 3 50 days; 1895-6--Delia Smith Sept.-Apr. 160 days; 1896-97--Stella Murphy Sept.-Apr. 159 days; 1897-98--Eunice Abbey Sept.-Apr. 139½ days; 1898-99--Ruby Davis Sept. Mar. 25 pupils; 1899-1900--Ruby Davis; 1900-01--Mary E. Kimmel 140 days 17 pupils; 1901-02--Mary Patterson 24 pupils; 1902-03--Mary Patterson 15 pupils; 1903-04--Mary Patterson \$40 per month; 1905--Margaret Dallas, Eugene Simmons, Ruth Dallas, Ida Canfield;

The school picture at the beginning of the report shows Miss Emma Johnson who taught from 1909-1912.

Lewis Jeardoe taught three years from 1912-1915 with 8-month terms and 23, 26, 24 pupils in those respective terms.

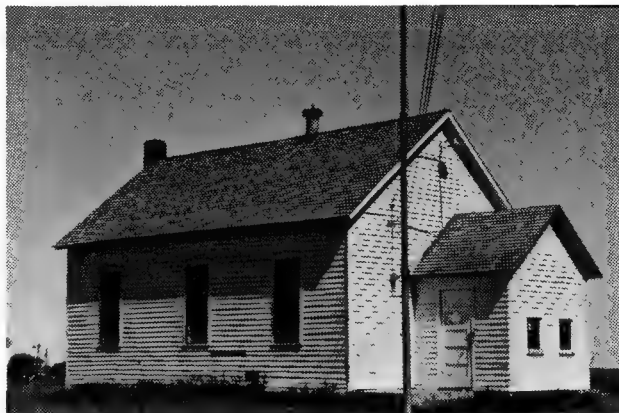
1915-1916 Ethel Wilson; 1916-1917- Ernest



Bingham 139 days 19 pupils; 1917-18--Ruth Pennabaker; 1918-19--Ruth Humfeld; 1919-20--Lucille Nutter 140 days; 1920-21--Lucille Nutter 16 pupils; 1921-22--Selma Nutter; 1922-23--Selma Nutter; 1923-24--Verla Hawkins-Kearn (married during the term); 1924-25--Helen Loofburrow \$75 per month Helen Loofburrow is now Mrs. Chas. Mantz.



pupils sent to other schools; 1948--Amy Willford; 1949 and 1950--no school-pupils sent to other schools; 1950 to 1955--Gust Danielson.



There was no school after 1955. Mercer School had a cloak room added in 1934. This picture was taken when it was sold April 29, 1959 to be dismantled after many years of service.

#### DISTRICT 99 - NINETY-NINE OR GABRIELSON

On August 13, 1874 a meeting was held to organize Ninety-Nine School. The site of this school is in the SE corner of Section 3 in Beaver Township.

This building was erected in 1921-23 when Ethyl Dempsey was the teacher. They moved into the new



On March 4, 1925 Miss Loofburrow took this picture of her pupils: Back row: Winona Bank, Frances Kimmel, Velma Nutter, Maurice Nutter. Front row: Vernon Blank, Darleen Nutter, Blanche Nutter, and Fern Barleen.

1926-1927 Lucille Barleen, 11 pupils; 1931-33--Frances Kimmel \$75 per month; 1934-36--Fern Barleen \$40 per month (Great Depression); 1936--Helen Oliver; 1937--Thaine Clark; 1938-40--Bernice Clark; 1940--Kathryn Bradlier; 1941--Eldred Lash; 1942-3--Maudie Stensaas; 1944--Irene Thompson; 1945--Audrey Lundberg Spring term--Joyce McMillan-Schurr; 1946 and 1947--no school-



building in the winter. These are the pupils that year: Back row, left to right: Howard Swearingen, the teacher Miss Dempsey, Hannah Hanson (who loaned us the picture), Walter Brand. Front row: Edna Anderson, Richard Brand, Bertil Olson, Ole Hanson, Richard Haggman, Ralph Swearingen, Bert Noble and Carl Hanson.

Teachers: 1878 - Avada Glasgow (spring term) and '78-'79; 1880 - Frank Hale; M.N. Kackley taught, but I'm



not sure whether 1880-1883 or just 1 term - very indefinite.; 1883-1884 - Olive Sterling; 1884-'84 - G.H. Barley; 1885-1886 - O.L. Galsgow; 1891-'92 - Emma Poage; 1892-'93 - Bella Bacock.

The records then skip to '12-'13. With a different teacher each year, the teachers until 1919 are recorded as Mary Gile, Jessie Patterson, Lowell Houghton, Ruth Houghton (Mrs. Hans Anderson), Iva Houghton (Benson - Ruth's sister, but she doesn't live here), Edna Carpenter, and Hazel Hammond.

There is a skip to '30. Florence Swanson taught 1930-1935; Alma Dean Fuller, '35-'36; Evelyn Fuller, '39-'40, Aileen Nelson, '42-'44; Mrs. Geneva Haden, '44-'45.

On Aug. 9, 1877, M.N. Monson presided at a meeting of the board and community. George Tholsborg was elected clerk; A.H. Poage, treasurer. It was decided that "a tax of taxable property in the district be levied to wit, 'For Building Fund, one per cent. For Teachers Fund one per cent!'"

Aug. 25, 1877 it was voted to build a frame school house 20 x 18 inside, but on Dec. 8 the dimensions were changed to 26 x 18. See below + for addition.

On Jan. 21, 1878 it was voted to commence school March 18. She was paid \$60 for the three-month term. Avada Glasgow was the first teacher.

April 8, 1921 a board meeting was held to investigate the possibility of building a new school house. On April 18, an election was held. They voted bonds in the sum of \$4000 to be paid in 5 years.



Miss Hannah Hansen shares this 1921 picture of pupils at District 99: Bottom row: almost out of the picture was Wanda Figgins, Edna Anderson, Bert Noble, Ole Hansen, Richard Brand.

Middle row: Carl Hansen, Howard Swearingen, (sitting down), Hannah Hansen, Blanche Figgins.

Back row: Naomi Figgins, Mable Brnad, Walter Brand.

April 13, 1923, ¼ acre of land was purchased to add to the north side of the school ground. (In 1911 an

"anteroom" size - 8x10 was built.)

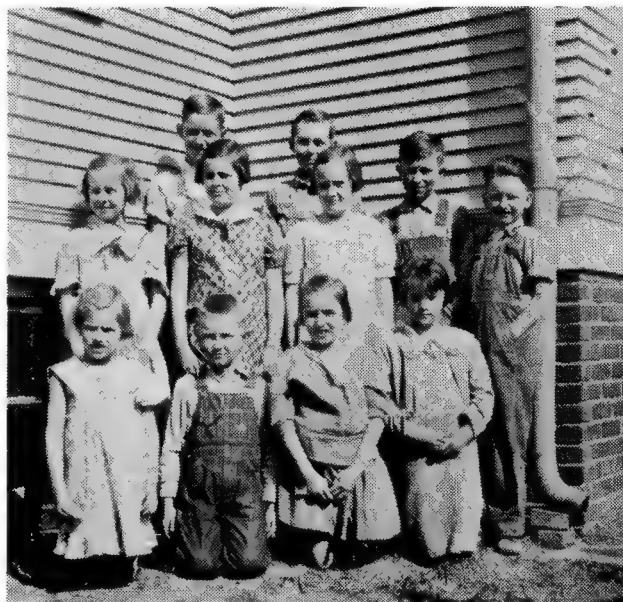
In 1883-1884 it was interesting to note that 6 months school were taught as follows: Oct. 1 first term started and continued for 3 months. Vacation - 2 months. Then a 3-month term starting March 1.

+ In Aug. 1883 it was voted "that a coal house, horse stable, and privy should be built out of a 7 mill levy."

On April 13, 1945, the partons at the annual school meeting voted to discontinue school and send their pupils to another district. They voted to pay transportation to the parents for transportation as follows: 10 cents a mile for dirt roads and 5 cents per mile for all weather roads.

Upon consolidation with Kackley, District 221, in the spring of 1946, the treasurer's books closed with the notation, "Balance paid to 221 \$272.60 - July, 1946.

The building was purchased by Everett Hanson and moved to Courtland to be converted into a residence.



Dated about 1932-33, this picture for Children at District 99 was loaned to us by Richard Olsons. In the back row are: Glen Swearingen, Harold Hedstrom, Arvid Band and Rex Swearingen.

Next row - Ruth Hedstrom, Margaret Hedstrom and Agnes Olson.

Front row - Neva Kackley, John Band, Enid Kackley and Audrey Thomas.

The District 99 Board was Everett Hansen director, Ephriam Hedstrom clerk, Richard Olson, treasurer at the time District 99 annexed to District 121.

#### DISTRICT 100—BOLLEN SCHOOL

The first school in District 100 was a subscription school, according to a clipping from the Courtland Journal that was sent by courtesy of Miss Gwendolyn Glasgow who now resides in Salina, Kansas, but belongs to a long list of teachers in her family. She was the thirtieth teacher in her family. She says she followed her father and her cousin, Mae Glasgow in teaching at District 100, the Bollen School (also known as the Engwall School). Here are pictures of her father, Joseph C. Glasgow, and her



mother Olive Sterling Glasgow who was also principal of Garfield School in Concorda, Kansas. Miss Glasgow says that when she went to interview Mr. John Johnson (President of the Board at District 100), he said, "I don't need any recommendations from you for I went to school to your father once and he nearly licked me!" So she was hired without further adieu!

Mr. Rudolph Johnson shared the picture at the top of the page and it was taken in 1897. Top row were: left to right—Arthur Johnson, August Band, Charley Anderson, Henning Swenson, Willie Brown, Nellie Mainquist, Maude Brown, Louisa Johnson. Second row: Dors Brown, Esther Anderson, Ruby Mainquist, Nannie Swan, Charley Johnson, and E.E. Shull was the teacher. Third row: Ellen Anderson, Katherine Mainquist, Luther Swan, Helga Swenson, Enoch Anderson, Ruby Johnson, Laban Johnson, Earl Stafford. Bottom row: Eugie Brown, Reuben Engwall, Julia Swan, Fay Stafford, Rudolph Johnson, Fred Mainquist, Archie Neil, Rolland Stafford.

In 1904 a new frame building was built. This picture was loaned by Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Mainquist and John Mainquist, and was taken in 1905. Top row: Ethel Pearson, Hannah Berg, Ruth Neil, Hugh Porter teacher, Enoch Anderson, John Mainquist, Ed Barricklow. Second row: Phoebe Berg, Jennie Neil, Emil Pearson, Fred Mainquist,



Reuben Engwall. Bottom row: Nellie Johnson, Esther Berg, Otto Berg, Lydia Pearson, Edgar Mainquist, holding the slate is Dan Barricklow, Lloyd Vincent, Andrew Engwall, Marvin Engwall.

Bollen School was organized on August 13th, 1874. The stone school was built on what is now (1975) the Enoch Anderson place. Textbooks were whatever the families could find and pupils furnished their own stools! Mrs. Mary Pilcher was the first teacher. She and her husband, James Pilcher, lived in a rock house on the corner west of Milford Andersons on the north side of the road. Their children were: Lillian, Harry, Nathan, Carl and Nellie and two who died in their early childhoods. Mrs. Pilcher was the grandmother of Mrs. Jennie (Niel) Blanding and Lee Neil and an aunt of Mrs. C.R. Carlson.

In 1876 an acre of ground was donated by Henry Bollen for the school site and the school was named after him. At 2:00 p.m. of August 10th at the Bollen home the organizational meeting was held. They voted a one percent tax for the school teacher and one percent for incidental expenses. The school building of stone was paid for by donations with an estimated cash value of \$200.

The district boundaries were: State of Kansas, County of Republic, School District 100 in Township 4 S Range 5 W. Dated Belleville, May 30, 1876 and signed by David C. Gamble, County Superintendent.

The first teacher was Albert Curtis with school commencing on the 4th day of December, 1877 with the School Board members: John Burgh (Berg) treasurer, George Rambo director, and John Neil clerk. The term was to be three months at a salary of \$25 per month.

The average enrollment was 25 to 35 pupils ranging in age between 5 and 21 years. School terms differed in length according to how much money was available. In the minutes of the Annual Meeting it was stated that school was to continue as long as funds would supply. In 1880 the term was 5 months but in 1884 only 4 months and in 1887 a 7-month term, and in 1891 a 6-month term. Regardless of the number of months, the farm boys got to go only about two months. They helped pick corn about two months until Christmas and field work started in March. At an Annual Meeting it was voted to have summer school. It would commence the first week in April 1883 and continue three months. In 1903, an eight-month was held and then became standard for this district.

From the minutes of a special meeting the following textbooks were adopted: Resolved: By the School Board of District 100, County of Republic, State of Kansas -That McGuffeys Reader and Speller, Ray's Arithmetic, Clark's

Grammar, Eclectic Geography (Kansas Edition), Eclectic Copybook and Henables United States History and other books of the Eclectic, Educational Levees are hereby adopted for uniform use in the school of this District for five years on the terms of the approval of the publishers, dated June 3, 1879 -Mark Huselby, Clerk.

At the Annual Meeting held August 10, 1882, it was voted that a stone backhouse be built. James H. Pilcher, Wm. Lawrence and John Rouse were the committee appointed to see to the building of the house to be 7 by 12 ft. outside.

When it was decided to build a new building in 1904 to replace the old stone school, the Lumber was purchased from Foster Lumber Company at a cost of \$350. This wooden structure was built by Frank Brandt for \$115 and Hamilton Bros. did the plaster work for \$40.25. Hauling sand and other labor was done by local men in the district.



This photo is share by Alfild Johnson. The picture was taken in 1910. Top row, left to right: Helen Small, teacher; Lydia Pearson, Nellie Johnson, Esther Berg. Second row: Andrew Engwall, Otto Berg, Inez Pilcher, Madeline Johnson, Alfild Johnson. Bottom row: Pearl Christensen, Lizzie Sweeting, Clarence Johnson, Ted Christensen, Ira Pilcher, Virgil Vincent, LaVerne Johnson.

John Mainquist recalls that they carried drinking water from the Sven Swenson place three-quarters of a mile west of the school. This was a chore usually assigned to the older boys. All the pupils drank water from the pail with a dipper. Later, water was kept in a stone cooler which had a spigot and each child had a personal cup usually of tin. As time went on, the school had its own water supply from a cistern with a chain pump. As the crank was turned, the continuous chain of cups brought the water up and emptied into the spout as it went over the top. Besides bringing up water, the chain also served to aerate the cistern water. Gust Sjolander and Charley Johnson dug the first well by hand - their only tools being a spade and a bucket to pull up the dirt. It took them two days and they were paid \$10. Hamilton Bros. did the plaster work on the cistern.

Most of the teachers did their own janitor work, however, those who lived farther away sometimes hired someone to build the fire during the winter months.



Charley Johnson, who now resides in Scandia, did the janitor work for Miss Mae Glasgow. His chores were to open the schoolhouse, build the fire, carry in cobs, and coal, carry out ashes, pick up chalk and sweep the floor. He was paid 5 cents a day, 25 cents total for a week's work.

Despite the inconveniences and hardships, many social gatherings were enjoyed. Programs and plays followed by box suppers and pie socials, parties and spelling bees with School District 99. The last day of school was a big event down through the years with a big basket dinner at noon, then games, contests and other entertainment in the afternoon.

Miss Gwendolyn Glasgow wrote these comments in the Daily Register at the close of her term, May, 1918: Clarence Johnson won first prize on an essay, "Liberty Bonds" and Laverne Johnson won second place. Leonard Johnson did two years work in arithmetic this year. Fern Sjolander passed both 3rd and 4th grades this year.

Some of the teachers during Bollen's history were: Albert Curtis, Joseph Glasgow, Emma Thompson, Martha Hickman, Emma Andrews, Marie Huselby, Oberia Earley, Laura Botts, John Lawrence, Emma (Andrews) Barricklow, C.B. Keith, Clara Thomas, D.W. Hamilton, Mae Glasgow, J.D. Andrews, E.E. Shull, J. West, Hugh Porter, Beatrice Patterson, Chloe Noble, Grace Hedges, Gwendolyn Glasgow, Hazel McMichael, Marguerite Fritzinger, Helen Way, Ida Belle Brown, Delpha Larson, Marvin Larson, Eunice Lundblade, Mildred Kelly, Ruth Johnson, Velda Henrickson, Ethel Johnson and Eva Taylor.

The last term was taught by Eva Taylor of Republic in 1937-38. Those enrolled were Irvin Johnson, Clifford Owens, Neva Joyce Mills, Ruth and Thelma Mainquist and Howard Vincent. Because two families were moving from the district and there were two eighth grade graduate, there would be an enrollment of two the next term. At the Annual Meeting held April 14, 1938, a motion



was made, seconded and voted on, not to have school and to take the pupils to Courtland. Fred Mainquist was elected to transport the children to school.

The school building was moved to Kackley and converted to a residence for Wilbert Johnson.

#### DISTRICT 101 - BLUE GRASS

Blue Grass School District 101 was organized June 8, 1888. It was located about one and a half miles east of Narka of today, in the south central part of Sec. 14 of Albion Township, which is the Azel Joy farm

In the Report for October, 1902, compiled by the County Superintendent of Public Instruction, E.E. Baird, Miss Jessie Kniffin of Narka taught here. The Board members were: C.W. Lytle, clerk; J. Brennemen, treasurer; L.W. Patterson, director all with Narka addresses.

In the County Superintendent's report issued by L.W. Nutter in 1906-07, District 101 has been consolidated with District 118, Narka. That Board was J.A. Anderson, clerk; Wm. Brenneman, treasurer; and D.E. Lower, director.

According to these pieces of information the Blue Grass School lasted only about 18 years from 1888 until 1906. However, we believe there must have been school earlier because the 1884 Atlas of Republic County gave the land description as: Sec. 14 on the 159 A. farm of L.W. Patterson at the SW corner.

An early news item tells of the school having a Christmas tree entertainment in December of 1887. Miss Maggie Kessler was the teacher in 1888. Miss Grace Hancock taught Blue Grass School in 1904-1905 and Mrs. Barbara Lachman feels she was the last teacher there.

The building was sold about 1908 and moved into Narka across the street from the residence of Joe Morton and was made into a house. The Frank Kosek family lived there for many years. During World War II the house was purchased by Al Hudson. He tore it down and used the lumber to build their home.

Esther, Ezra and Maude Hamilton are the only pupils we have found that attended Blue Grass School. To date no pictures have been located of the almost-forgotten-school.

#### DISTRICT 102—TRIUMPH SCHOOL

There seems to be no organization date for Triumph School on the records. It was 2 miles east and one south of Warwick in Big Bend Township or 4½ miles north and 3 west of Republic.

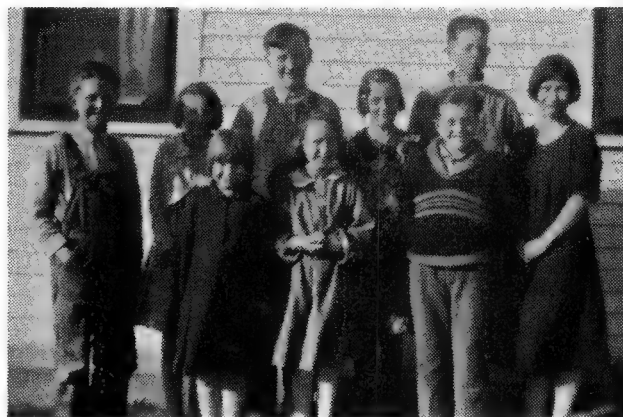
In 1895 J.A. Campbell, W.D. Calder and George Milner were the Board members. In 1904-05 the Board members were W.C. Smith, S. Stafford and Grant Bending. The teacher was Edna A. Elliott.

Other teachers who taught here were: Edna Boye, Lillie McClure, Edna Nelson, Ella C. Hurley, Geneva



Hazen, Esther Charles, Elsie Smith, Hildred Aspegren, Edna Robison, May Stafford, Rubie Baker, Mildred Cure, Pearl Hunter, Ruth Albertson, Marva Elliott and Velda Smith.

Wilmer Harvey graduated from eighth grade in 1913 and Victor Harvey and Earl Stafford were graduates in 1916. Names were not recorded for the graduates of 1919 and 1920. Orland Stafford was the graduate in 1924.



While Velda Smith-McCullough taught there in 1932-33 these were her nine pupils: front row-Betty Fitzgerald, Evelyn Fitzgerald, Lenard Eitzman. Back row-Herman Fitzgerald, Leona Stenson, Clyde Stenson, Elsa Eitzman, Oscar Eitzman and Virginia Fitzgerald. Oscar and Virginia graduated that spring and the next year 1933-34 Lorene Stenson entered first grade, so there were eight enrolled.



In 1934-35 there were five on the roll: Elsa Eitzman, Clyde Stenson in eighth grade; Leona Stenson and Lenard

Eitzman in seventh grade; and Lorene Stenson in grade two. School enrollment had become so small that this was the last term of school for Triumph. Mrs. McCullough shared these pictures with us and says the building is still there but is used for storing grain rather than knowledge. The last Board members were: Leonard Eitzman, Victor Harvey and Orland Stafford.

The district was disorganized July 17, 1951 and annexed in its entirety to District 69, Lake School.

#### DISTRICT 103—TURKEY CREEK

This schoolhouse (1926) is located in the N.E. corner of section 11 in Grant Township, 3½ miles West and 1 mile North of Agenda. Since Turkey Creek flows not too far away from this location, it is assumed that this is the reason the schoolhouse was named Turkey Creek.



The earliest directory available for school information is 1894-95. Belle Fleming was the teacher, S. Smith, the Director, J.R. Anthony, the Clerk and Frank Plevka the Treasurer.

The following year 1895-96, F.S. Long was the teacher, G.W. Morley, J.R. Anthony and Frank Plevka were the board members.

In 1904-5, Ruth Kenney was the teacher. Bert Kelley, A. McKenzie and Frank Plevka were board members. Lewis Jeardoe began his teaching career at Turkey Creek in September, 1910.



This picture by courtesy of Mrs. Clara Cibolski, is inside the old building and the pupils are as follows: Back Row Bessie Plevka, Ann Sterba, Ann Cibolski, Miss

Maude McNemar, teacher, Joseph Beneda, Jim McKenzie, Bonnie Cibolski, Louis Tuma. Middle Row Josie Tuma, Flora McKenzie, Gertie McKenzie, Joe Cibolski, Ralph McKenzie, Charley Kelley, Frank Beneda. Front Row Albert Kelley, Will Beneda, Ted Cibolski, Charley Beneda.



This picture of the pupils by the first schoolhouse in 1917-1918 was loaned by Mrs. Frank Havel. In the back row are Bill Cherney, Christie Plevka-Lojka, Anna Plevka-Havel, Faye Salmon, Teacher.

Middle Row—Lawrence Skidmore, Bedford Barton, Joe Baxa, Anna Cherney-Kasl, Mary Baxa-Bergstrom, Lillie Cibolski-White, Matilda Krhounek-Kolar. Front row—John Cibolski, Frank Cherney, Arthur Barton, Lulu Baxa-Klaubzuba, Adolph Krhounek, Bertha Cibolski. To the right are two preschoolers—Elsie Cherney Wolff, and Agnes Cibolski.



Even though the roads were not graveled or black-topped in 1918, teachers used cars as a means of transportation. In this picture by courtesy of Mrs. Frank M. Havel, Bessie Paulen, the teacher is at the left of the car. In the back row are: Christie Plevka-Lojka, Anna Plevka-Havel, Mabel Barton-Salmon, Bedford Barton, Joe Baxa, Lawrence Skidmore, Milford Newman. On the fender are Mary Baxa-Bergstrom, Matilda Krhounek-Kolar, Adolph Krhounek, Lulu Baxa-Klaubzuba. Arthur Barton is standing in front of the car.

Ruth Anthony was teaching when the old schoolhouse burned in 1925. Board members were Frank Cherney, Sr., Fred Barton and Albert Kelley. One year of school was taught in the Kelley home. The new school was built in 1926. Pupils in 1925 were: Mildred Cibolski, Bertha Baxa,

Blanche Plevka, Harvey Morley, Joe Cibolski, Bessie Cibolski, Bennie Cherney, Elsie Cherney, Agnes Cibolski, Ernst Baxa, Mildred Newman, Leonard Barton, Lula Baxa, Bertha Cibolski, Eddie Peterka, John Cibolski, Frank Cherney.

Some of the teachers since 1925: Ruth Anthony, 1926-27, Dorothy Norlund, 1927-28, Fontella Salmon-Campbell, 1928-30, Mrs. Orpha Walker, 1930-33, Anna Tuma, 1933-34, Leda Cherney, 1934-38, and Lulu Walker, 1938-39. Lulu Walker in 1939 had two pupils; Marvin Cherney and Edw. Plevka.



Leda Havel-Cherney was teaching in 1934-35. Pupils in the Back Row Dorothea Cibolski-Benyshek, Edd Cherney, Leona Plevka-Shulda. Front Row Harriet Englund, Marvin Cherney, Edw. Plevka. (This picture by courtesy of Mrs. Frank Cherney. (Leda Havel)

In 1939-40 the Board members were: Clara Cibolski, Leonard Barton and Wendell Newman. Letha Huncovsky was the teacher.

The last teacher was Miss Norma Johnson, in 1950-51. Board members were Vincent Baxa, Jr., Wendell Newman, and Wm. Cherney. Pupils were Jerry Newman, 1st, Robert Kauer, 2nd, Helen Ruth Baxa, 4th, Eleanor Newman, 5th, Grace Ann Baxa, 6th, Donald Kauer, 8th.

The district was disorganized June 5, 1953. Board members were Vincent Baxa, James B. Kauer and William Cherney. The sale was held Nov. 30, 1953. This district was annexed to adjoining districts 113 and 111.

An interesting entry in the meeting notes on July 1, 1938 was, "It was agreed with all voters, to agree with the schoolboard, in case they have to hire a married teacher."

This schoolhouse still stands in its original location and is used as hay storage. The windows are out and the building is in disrepair—a silent testimony to the wages of time!

#### DISTRICT 104—SALT MARSH SCHOOL

The Salt Marsh School, District 104, located seven and one-fourth miles south of Courtland, or two miles west and one and one-half miles south of Kackley, held its first term of school in the spring of 1883 in a small native rock building. The land on which the school building stood was a portion of the farm owned by J.P. Florell. Although very few minutes of the school board have been preserved, the

records kept by the teachers are still available; consequently it was possible to compile a complete list of the teachers.

Eliza King was the first teacher for the three-month spring term. Her salary was \$16.00 a month. Mrs. Minnie Loftus, the teacher for the next term, earned \$25.00 a month. The last recorded salary was that of \$75.00 paid to Lorine Erickson (Mrs. Lorine Aspegren) in 1923-24. As in many districts in the early days, the length of the term varied from year to year being determined by the amount of money available. By 1915 there was a six-month term, and by 1925 the term became the standard eight months.

There were many teachers, since rarely did a teacher stay more than one term. Teachers were as follows: Eliza King, Mrs. Minnie Loftus, Minnie Stubblefield, Minnie Creager, Mary Wilbur, Mr. J.T. Glasgow, P.S. Creager, J.D. James, Mary Beacher, Jennie Hannen, D.W. Hamilton, Tina Creager, C.M. Houghton, Grace B. Day, Birdie McKee, Grace Hedges, Mary Patterson, Beatrice Patterson, Mayme Bartlow, Floy Collins, Nellie Logan, Emma Klaumann, Ella Smith, Ella Larson, Ive Smith, Esther Larson, Ida Moline, Madeline Johnson, Edna McMillen, Lorine Erickson, Warren Segerhammar, Amy Holgerson, Garnet Niswender, Ethel Johnson, Margie Stanton, and Betty Anderson.



Miss Emma Klaumann taught her first term of school at Salt Marsh during the winter of 1912-13. She has kindly loaned us this picture and information: the Board Members were Mr. Haggman, Mr. Frank Carlson and Mr. Larson. The pupils were Emerald, Violet, Forrest, and Lynda Carlson; Maurine Larson, and Bertha Larson; Nellie, Earl, Florence, and Lillian Hultquist; Gust, Elvera and Nels Florell; Edna Monson, Raymond Faulk and (Bernard Florell was absent).

During the first twenty years there were approximately twenty-five pupils although it was apparent that the older children were kept at home many days to assist with the work for their attendance was very erratic, especially that of the boys who helped their fathers with picking corn in the fall and with field preparation and planting in the spring. The many recorded tardy marks gave evidence of the fact that help was needed in the mornings with the milking and other chores. The attendance dropped rapidly in the second decade of the 1900's and in the year of its closing there were only three pupils: Darlene Larson, Darell Larson, and Gaylord Florell. The large families of earlier days had contributed to the greater enrollment. In 1894 some family names of the pupils were Haggman, Tebow, Florell,



Larson, Creager, and Elmborg. During that year the record for the largest number from one family was claimed by the Haggman's who sent these eight children to the school: Emil, Ledue, Fritsof, Leonard, Victor (Dr. C.V.), Ruth, Mabel, and Blanche.

A small "entry" on the west of the main building provided room for coats, lunch buckets, and a waterpail; later a water cooler was purchased. Since there was no well or cistern on the school premises, water was carried from a near-by farm; for approximately the last thirty years it was the Ruben Engwall farm which was located across the road. The two chosen each time for this "chore" felt privileged as they escaped from the school room for a brief time.

The main building contained the usual equipment found in the early schoolroom. The "library" was a bookcase filled with books, some dull but others interesting enough to entice children to explore. Some of the early favorites included the Horatio Alger books and the Camp Fire Girl Series. Knowledge of the world was made visual as a globe was lowered from the ceiling to be studied. Originally the desks were double ones and of necessity were close together since the desk of one provided the backing and seat for the one in front. Thus the teacher had to keep alert for boys pulling the "pig tails" (braids) or curls of the girls seated in front of them. The desks also provided a place for the ink at the top of the desk; this gave the mischievous student an opportunity to "accidentally dip into the ink the hair of the girl in front." The teacher needed the proverbial "eyes in the back of her head."

A stove in the back center provided heat for the winter. In cold or wet weather students were allowed to take turns by the stove to warm their feet or to dry their shoes. The fuel was kept in a shed attached to the east end of the building and contained cobs and coal. In inclement weather it also provided a place to play even though the space was limited.

At the beginning of the 1919-1920 term a two-burner oil stove was purchased and the cold lunch brought by the students was supplemented by a hot dish, usually soup or cocoa. The children took turns providing these and the older girls prepared it just before the lunch hour.

In order that recitations of classes might not be interrupted, a system of finger-raising was used by the teacher whereby the student could make a request to be granted or denied by the teacher. One finger meant "May I get a drink?" Three fingers asked, "May I speak?" A granting of the two-finger request meant a trip outside to one of the little white buildings located at the east edge of the school ground; this gave an opportunity to loiter on the way if the weather was good, but meant a quick trip if it were cold or wet.

God and country were both recognized each day as the Flag Salute was given and the Lord's Prayer prayed.

In view of the high prices today, it is interesting to note some of the recorded amounts paid. In 1884: Schoolhouse furniture, \$10.00; coal, \$3.95; hauling the coal, .50. In 1885: Emma Florell for cleaning the schoolhouse, .75. In 1889 a Box Supper and program was held "clearing \$23.00. For this was purchased 17 volumes of books-\$10.50, one bookcase-\$10.00, 6 window shades-\$1.80, and 1 curtain-.95 for a total of \$23.25."

Interesting are some of the recommendations by the teacher at the end of the 1905-1906 term. "Higher number

work, Review the same work, Take up primary history, Should take Higher Numbers, Oral language and Higher geography." No student was passed to another grade; only these comments were made, because "Grades" came upon the school scene about 1908.

Programs were held on the usual holidays, but one year was included a Frances Willard Day Program. Some numbers on the program given on Dec. 18, 1900 were the following: Declamation "What the Toys Said"-Hildur Florell (Mrs. Floyd Nolan), Declamation, "See My Slate, I Bought It New"-Gilbert Larson, and "Grandma's Knitting"-Blanch Haggman.

The names of some of the early day board members were S.A. Haggman, J.P. Florell, John Larson, Frank Carlson, and Iver Rodde.

At the schoolmeeting in the spring of 1932, it was decided to send the children to Kackley, Dist. 121, for the following year. J.R. Engwall was hired "to haul the children in his own car for \$35.00 a month." This arrangement was the same each year with some variation in salary until 1940 when Arne Johnson was hired to provide the transportation for \$38.00 a month. In the spring of 1943 a vote for consolidation with Dist. 121 was taken, but the motion failed. School was once more held at Dist. 104 for two years. In the spring of 1945 the district voted to consolidate with Kackley, Dist. 121, and the school bell at Dist. 104 was forever silenced.

For a number of years the school building remained as well as the large cedar tree at the front of the grounds which had been placed there as a memorial to Emerald Carlson, a former student, who had died in France. These, too, have now disappeared and the ground on which the school stood is once again a field, but many happy memories remain in the minds of those who played and worked at readin', writin', and 'rithmetic in the little stone building which housed Dist. 104, the Salt Marsh School.

#### DISTRICT 105—TALMO SCHOOL

On April 24, 1876, John G. Isaacs and wife Suzanne gave a warranty deed to Thomas McClean for NW¼ of Sec. 19 in Grant Township for which Mr. McClean gave \$800.00.

If the reader will refer to the history of District 1, it will be noted that all the land twelve miles north of this was in the early school. The Corys, Passmores, Myers, Schooleys, Westhausens and Blackwoods, as well as many other families farther north attended there, and now Mr.



McClellan and the Corys wanted a school to be closer for their children to attend.

Several years previous to this time, Thomas McClellan set out from Ireland with another young friend to land on Canadian soil. In the lumber camps of New England they worked to save money and make their way until one day his friend slipped between the logs on the river and was killed. Thomas could stay no longer. He worked westward, finally taking a homestead in White Rock Township. Still trying to better his circumstances, he had come to buy the Patent on the land along Salt Creek. He married Hannah Little and raised a family that were ready for school when the Union Pacific Railroad came through his farm in 1884. (Refer to HOMELAND HORIZONS.)

On April 24, 1884, just eight years to the day from the purchase of his farm, Thomas McClellan gave a warranty deed to R.W. Jenkins for the north half of this quarter, to be developed into the town site and on it, June 10, 1885, the Schoolhouse District 105 was located. Records show that Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 in Block 15 were given for \$1 for the school. E.A. Hallowell was notary public for this instrument and for him the street was named.

The above picture was loaned to us by Nettie Barnett who is a descendant of Ed Jeardoe, an early board member. Milt Richardson and A.E. Whan were serving with him in 1894-95. They hired F.C.L. Hall to teach eight months at \$50 a month. In 1895-96, Board members were: Thomas McClellan, A.E. Whan and J.P. Nutter.



Many activities of an educational nature developed at the Talmo School. About the turn of the century, Singing Schools were popular. In the Talmo Singing School were: back-Tad Smock, Nellie Jeardoe, George Wyler, Hattie Jewell and Richard Jeardoe (Nettie Barnett's father). Front row: Arden Jewell, Annie Wyler, George Jewell and Lottie Smock.

Before the church was built in Talmo, Sunday services were held in the schoolhouse.

Nettie Barnett recalls that her father, Richard Jeardoe, used tell about having "Lyceums" on certain Friday afternoons. One of his schoolmates was reluctant to get up in front of a roomful of students, but on this particular afternoon the teacher insisted that he "take his turn". So he raised his arm above his head and "declaimed": "The thunder roared, And the lightning flashed—There goes a little mouse !!!" Whether or not this received approval, we do not know. At least, it is said to be original, and the declaimer had "taken his turn".

Some of the registers were available for research

concerning the teachers, but we are indebted to Mrs. Crystle McDowell, Mrs. Alex Johnson and Mrs. Mervin Johnson for much of the data: Nellie Larson, Mollie Moore, Dave Gould and Bert Ainsworth taught before the turn of the century.

1901-02	Julia Larson
1902-03	Fred Nims, Sr.
1903-04	T.M. Hemphill
1904-05	Howard Zech



Mr. Zech found time for extra-curricular activities in his busy day. These were young men around Talmo whom he organized into a football team: Back row- Charlie Carbutt, Oscar Johnson and Mr. Zech. Front row- (Ted) E.V. Lash, Noah Way, Will Pettyjohn, Albert Gilles, Guy Lowell, Harry Gilles and Orval Cousins. It seems there were no substitutes. This picture was taken when they played a game at Munden, Kansas.

1905-06	Howard Paisley
1906-07	Chas. C. Sterba
1907-08	John Kuhn
1908-09	Verna Burkman
1909-10	Florence Jeardoe
1910-11	Verna Burkman
1911-12	Leva Burkman
1912-13	Leva Burkman
1913-14	Bruce Polly, Prin.

Miss Torbet Mr. Polly and Miss Torbet were the first to teach in this new two-room school. High school courses were taught in the upper room for at least three years.

The old schoolhouse was moved about a block west on the south side of the street. Martells had a general store in it and, later years, it was under several ownerships. It still stands as a storage building after more than 90 years.

1914-15	Alice Hemphill Margaret Dallas
1915-16	Alice Hemphill Margaret Dallas
1916-17	Catherine Wells Frances Hemphill
1917-18	Leva Burkman Frances Hemphill
1918-19	Leva Burkman Musetta Martell
1919-20	Edith Emrick Ethel Emrick
1920-21	Madeline Krohn Thelma Morffitt
1921-22	Thelma Morffitt - Dora Boal

1922-23  
 1923-24  
 1924-25  
 1925-26 Lewis Jeardoe  
           Doris Dewey  
 1926-27 Lewis Jeardoe  
           Doris Dewey-Smith



Lewis Jeardoe's father served on the early school board at Talmo. We do not have accurate records for Lewis's teaching career, but know that he was teaching at Zion School when he went to serve in the Army of the United States in France in World War I. In Republic County records available, we can verify 42 years of teaching. In addition, he taught several years at Hollis and Minersville in Cloud County. Mrs. Johnson says he taught 46 years.



In her second year of teaching Doris Dewey-Smith had these pupils on a "Last Day" weiner roast: Back row- Bobby Craddock, Keith Blackwood, Ernestene Gilles, Catherine Gilles and Charley Chritton. Middle row- Bobby Sherwood, Junior Busch, Raymond Smock, Margaret Jeardoe, Floyd Bowersox, Carl Pettyjohn, and Esther Way. Front row: Junior Kennedy, Paul Holmberg, Florence Bowersox, Dorothy Johnson, Mary Opal Hicks, Marie Smock, Isabelle Gilles and Orville Cory.

1927-28 to 1930 Lewis Jeardoe taught the upper room, it is believed. The other teachers, we do not know.

1930-31 Lewis Jeardoe and Isadore Lisher were teaching the year that Talmo received its "Class A" rating. A memorable program was given upon that occasion on a patriotic theme. At the right is Carl Pettyjohn dressed to represent George Washington.

We believe this was the last year for two teachers



until 1959-60 when districts adjacent to Talmo sent pupils and required two teachers again. Lewis taught until 1935 perhaps.

1935-36 Blanche Nutter  
 1936-37 Maxine Dunback  
 1937-38 Edythe Lowell  
 1938-39 Edythe Lowell



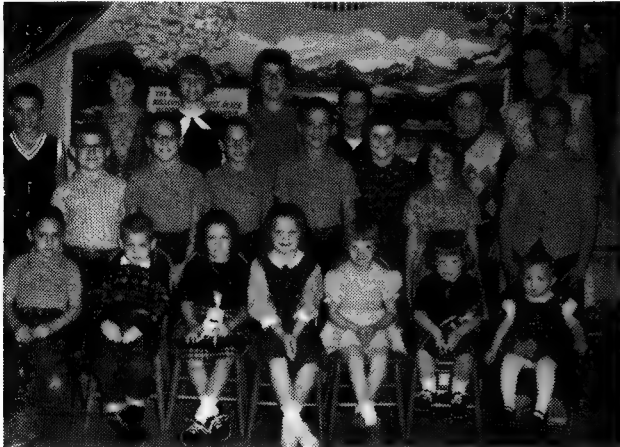
1939-40 Elvera Peterson  
 1940-41 Elvera Peterson  
 1941-42 Elvera Peterson  
 1942-43 Elvera Peterson  
 1943-44 Elvera Peterson-Hansen  
 1944-45 Esther Way  
 1946-47 Louise Zaksostelsky  
 1947-48 Louise Zakostelsky  
 1948-49 Rosella D. Anderson  
 1949-50 Clarice Dewey-Kelley

Mrs. Kelley taught all grades until 1957-58 when the enrollment had reached 24 pupils.

1958-59 Emma Makalous  
 The two-teacher school began.  
 1959-60 Florence Milner  
           Emma Makalous  
 1960-61 Mary Anthony  
           Emma Makalous



1961-62 Mary Anthony  
Emma Makalous  
1962-63 Sarah Proft taught all grades except there was  
no one in fifth grade. There were 16 pupils.  
1963-64 Sarah Proft  
1964-65 Sarah Proft was the last teacher at Talmo.



There were pre-schoolers the day this picture was taken.

Back row-	Middle row-
6th grade Gregg Sherwood	1st Kirk Lowell
6 Margaret Fate	3rd Craig Weatherhead
6 Debbie Kasl	3rd Dana Weatherhead
6 Melba Kuck	4th Robert Passmore
6 Timmy Passmore	5th Joyce Wurtz
6 Larry Brindle	1st Darlene Fate
Teacher, Mrs. Proft	4th Larry Kasl

Front row-

2nd Curt Weatherhead  
David Fater  
Sharon Weatherhead

1st Marsha Craig  
Jan Kasl  
Carol Weatherhead  
Lorene Kasl

A twin, Carl Weatherhead, was not present.

The Board members were: Clarence Wurtz, Charles Johnson and Henry George Passmore. Most of these pupils went to Unified School District at Belleville.

Talmo disorganized October 1, 1966 according to statute. On October 15, 1966, Co. Supt. Wm. Matthias wrote that he automatically disorganized the District as of July 6, 1966.

Talmo had accepted territory from Mercer School on February 21, 1958 while Mrs. Iris Myers, Mike Novak and Henry G. Passmore were Board members. In 1962 Talmo had also received territory from Zion District, so with District No. 1 annexed in 1935, this was again a large school district.

The schoolhouse was sold to Balls, but still remains on location.

#### DISTRICT 106—UNION RIDGE SCHOOL ALSO "GREEN"

South two miles from the junction of "Old 81 Highway" and 36 Highway on the south side of Belleville, is

Union Ridge School. It was at the SW corner of Sec. 14 in Belleville Township but is no longer there.

Mrs. Ernest Stocker of Olympia, Washington read in The Belleville Telescope about our need of information concerning Union Ridge School. She wrote that her mother Maude Jellison was a teacher in Republic County before she married Art Gregg in 1906. We recall that she was a piano teacher for years.

The school year of 1903-4, Maude Jellison taught Union Ridge School when E.E. Baird was County Superintendent and her Board members were; John Asher, director; Leo Bullen, clerk; and S.L. Donaldson, treasurer. Her eleven pupils were: Carrie Pracht, Elliot Staples, Goldena Orman, Clarence Pracht, Bessie Connell, Carl Johnson, Roy Pracht, Emma Wilson, Charlie Orman, Roy Connell and Willie Pracht.

Quite by chance, Mrs. Everett E. Willis of Belleville wrote to us that her father Willie Pracht attended Union Ridge School, but could not tell us his teacher's name! Now we know. She related how Willie and his brother stayed there in the rock house just west of school and "batched" while his parents went by covered wagon to Arriba, Colorado to get a homestead.

Then Verna Pracht-Willis went to school at District 106 also. Her teachers were: Ethel Wilkes (Childs) in her 5th grade, 1929-30; Grace Kuhn in her 6th grade, 1930-31; Maxine Polley (Owsley) in her 7th grade, 1931-32; Grace Kuhn in her 8th grade, 1932-33.



In 1942-43 Miss Evelyn V. Smith taught Union Ridge School and stayed with Mr. and Mrs. Harold Kelley north of the schoolhouse. She has loaned this picture of her students (except Bonnie Mauk who was absent): Back row- Miss Smith, teacher, Charles SANFORD, Edward Kuchera and Helen Klima. Front row: Marilyn Kuchera, Donnie Chappell, Lawrence Lee Saip, Pattie Forney and Larry Walter.

#### DISTRICT 107—BEULAH SCHOOL

In about 1884 or 1885 the Beulah School was organized and a school house built on the NE corner of the NE¼ of Sec. 22 in Lincoln Township. Miss Hattie Jewell taught it in 1902 when John W. Wilson, Jacob Sherwood, and George Tittle were Board members according to a Report of the Common Schools of Republic County issued by E.E.

Baird.

According to the Beulah School Souvenir for 1904-5, Miss Myrtle Sherwood was the teacher and Wm. J. Klaumann, J.W. Wilson, and Jacob Sherwood were Board members. Below is Miss Sherwood's picture. The pupils listed on the souvenir are: Charlie and Roy Creighton, Alex and Helen Davis, Arden, John, Leo, Hugh, and Maurice Fate, Wilmot Goldsmith, Evaline Horner, Charley, Emma, Bertha, and Willie Klaumann, Eva McFarland, Agnes Porter, Jenny Westbrook, Laura Westbrook, and Ethel and George Wilson.

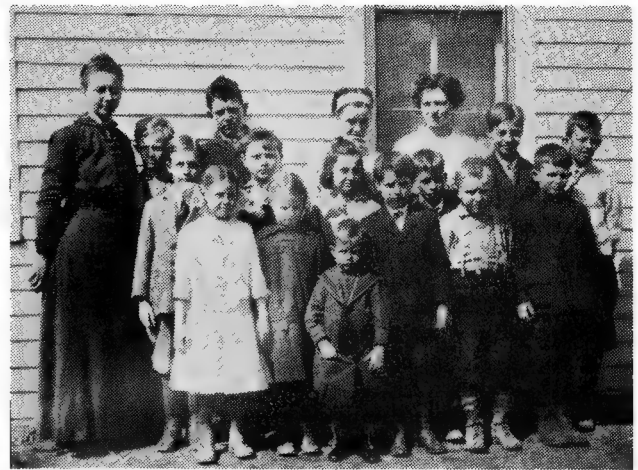


In 1906-07 there were two teachers, Mrs. N.M. Churchill, and H.L. Paslay. They taught seven months at \$45 per month. C.E. Sherwood, Geo. Tittle, and W.G. Klaumann were the Board members.

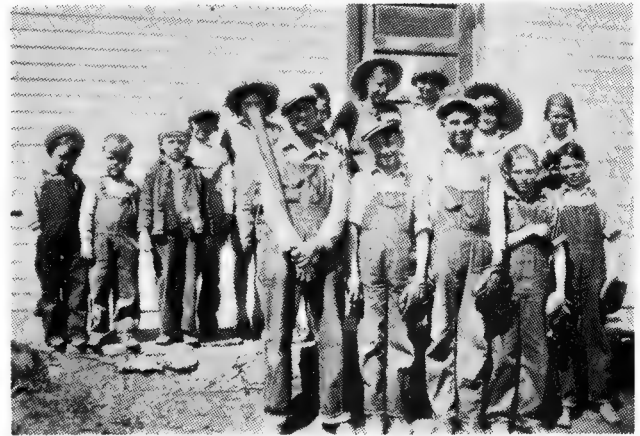


Miss Emma Klaumann began her first year of school in 1901 at Beulah. She has a couple of pictures from the year she was teacher April 2, 1915. She had a Visitation Day for the Mothers. Back Row: Mrs. Will Dodge, Mrs. C.E. Sherwood, Mrs. Jewett, and Mrs. Wm. J. Klaumann. Front row: Mrs. Fate and grandchild, Mrs. Sadie Carbutt, Mrs. Wilson and daughter, Mrs. Maurice Fate (Mary), and Mrs. Morgan. Kiddies in the front are Fenton Sherwood, and Amy Wilson.

The children in Miss Klaumann's school were: Back row- Miss Klaumann, Clarence Wilson, Fred Morgan, Mable Dodge, Valerie Morgan, Dale Fate, and Blaine Sherwood. Middle Row: Taylor Jewett, Ernest



Klaumann, Enid Carbutt, and Kenneth Sherwood. Front row; Paul Morgan, Virginia and Odielia Bergan, Cyrus Carbutt, Raymond Wilson and visitor Fenton Sherwood.



In 1928 Beulah School had its own Baseball Nine of boys with seven girls for substitutes. Mrs. Doris Smith was the teacher and the pupils were: Front row, left to right- Harold Lowe, Deane Cousins, Merle Fate, Rodger Shenaman, William Fate, Back row- Floyd Anderson, Jackie Nutter, Junior Nutter, Thelma Fate, Martha Shenaman, Helen Davis, Mary Sherwood, Maxine Fate, Darleen Nutter, Richard Anderson, and Betty Davis was absent this day.

Beulah School had a Singing School in the early years of this century. For a number of years after its members married and moved away, they would return at Christmas time for a reunion and "song-fest" usually at the Sherwood home. Some of its members were: Charley Carbutt, Ben Sherwood, Ethel and Charlie Wilson, Myrtle Sherwood-Dewey, Clarence Sherwood, Bertha Sherwood, Morris Fate, Arden Fate, John Fate and others we cannot recall. They and their spouses and families sang until the wee hours of morning every song from the old books.

#### Teachers at Beulah School

C.E. Sherwood	1898
John Kuhn	
Louisa Barnhart	
Elizabeth Beatty	
Myrtle Sherwood	1904-05
Mrs. N.M. Churchill, H.L. Paslay both taught	1906-07

Emma Klaumann	1913-1917
Bertha Sherwood	1920-26
Doris D. Smith	1928-29
Mrs. Beulah Anderson	1940-42
Mrs. Emma Nutter	1942-43
Mrs. Fleeta Cory	1943-44
with District 37 four months and then Beulah four months	
Miss Edythe Lowell	1944-47
with District 37. District 37 came to Beulah in 1946-47.	
1947-48 Miss Edythe Lowell went to District 37 to teach both schools. Miss Lowell went to teach Consolidated 222 which was District 37 and District 48.	

It seems that there was never any more school at Beulah after 1947 as the Directories state that pupils were sent to other schools-possibly Talmo District 105 when Mrs. Clarice Kelley began to teach there in 1949-50.

#### DISTRICT 108—GRANT SCHOOL

The location of the school was one mile east of Belleville and five south. Since the highway angles as it leaves Belleville, one simply follows the turns of that road. The site is in the SE corner of Section 26 of Belleville Township. It included only four square miles and so was not a large district.

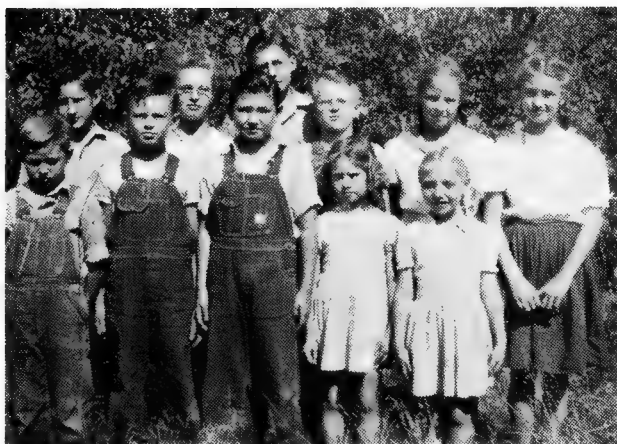
Old "81" Highway passed through the district and one of the landmarks was the Settle Hill to the south of the school. It was so steep on the north side that automobile dealers would make a sale if they took the prospective customer out to show that the car could go up the hill. Some old "Model T" Fords would be turned around and go up in reverse when they could not get up in low gear. Sim Settle homesteaded the land where Settle Hill was located, hence the name.

However, the playground had a nice setting with Reiley Creek on the north and the hill to the south. In the background of the picture is Reiley Creek east of the road.



On March 31, 1917 this picture was presented to Master John Hodgins by his teacher, Miss Anna Coufal. In the front row are: Freda Sanford, Mary Hodgins, Veda Sanford. Middle row: Lester Printz, John Hodgins, Leslie Printz. Back row: Ruth Printz, Clara Printz, Blanch Kasl, Ivöl Printz and Ethel Brooks.

The writer taught in the district the last 13 years that school was in session, beginning in 1946 and ending in 1959. Here is the picture of my school in October, 1947: Front



row- Jack Dunn, Don Danielson, Kenneth Chappell, Jean Chappell and Carolyn Forney. Back row: Jack Bray, Marilyn Snapp, Marvin Danielson, Dean Danielson, Mary Lou Bray and Marilyn Kuchera. I would like to reminisce over some of those bygone days. After a time those in power must have thought that it took too much energy to get up and over Settle Hill so they simply made the road run around the hill which made a grade that was much easier to climb than directly south over the hill. Often the pupils and I would go for a walk at noon, and we always took the old road. When we got to the top and sat for a spell to catch our breath, we never ceased to marvel at the view to the north and east. There were several farm homes where we could see the cows and horses grazing peacefully in the pastures. The fields and the meadows were also neatly fenced off, and there was old Reiley Creek cutting diagonally across the picture with its array of trees, and last of all the road which forked off and meandered away to the southeast. That scene would have satisfied an artist's dream as he searched for a landscape to paint. Then abruptly we must hurry as our time had elapsed. The boys would run pellmell down that steep hill. The girls and I would descend at a more leisurely pace until we reached the schoolhouse.

Then there were the Last Day Dinner. The entire population of the district and some that weren't from the district would come with their boxes and baskets, loaded with the best food that Kansas has to offer, and that wasn't all. Along about 10 A.M. the pupils would be peering off to the east. Would they come or wouldn't they, would they come in the car or would they bring the team and surrey?





After an hour had thus passed, the children would see through the trees the welcome sight of Will and Edith Hodgins coming at a leisurely trot. They were sitting in the front seat of the surrey which was pulled by a team of dapplegrey horses. They were not light driving horses but were real beauties, well fed, sleek animals. They were Will's pride and joy, and the kind used on the farm to pull a wagon or a plow. After Mr. and Mrs. Hodgins had unloaded the cakes, pies, deviled eggs and fried chicken, Will would call to the eager children, "Who wants a ride," thus began an adventure that surpassed a ferris wheel or a roly-coaster ride any day. I imagine when that afternoon was over both the horses and Will were ready for a well-earned rest while the tired children dreamed, not of sugarplums but of horses and children packed into those 2 seats of the old surrey that Will so generously shared with them. Thank you Will and Edith.

These last remarks were told to me by a couple of old-time residents of District 108 and from the records of the school.

The first school taught in Grant was in the year 1883. It was in the mile north of the location described above and was not taught in a schoolhouse but another building or a house was used as a schoolhouse. The records show that in 1885 school was held in the Grant schoolhouse, but the teacher had not signed the register so we do not have his or her name. In 1886 May Clark was the teacher, in 1887 Maggie Myers and Bertie Peake were the teachers. John Kuhn was one of the early teachers. Loretta Mosher, Ruth Hemphill, Carol Sanford, Eva Kipper, Luman Chappman, Laura Hill and Emma Makalous taught there later, and, of course, there were others.

Some of the families that were served by District 108 are William Reiley, Emmett Kieth, Chas. Shull, James Dixon, Monte Cory, Miles Brooks, Alfred Printz, Mike Kasl, Bide Sanford, Fred Sanford, E.E. Melton, John Branson, Will Hodgins, Earl Hodgins, Clell Chappell, Chas. Novak and Raymond Vanous.

The District disbanded in 1963. The buildings and contents were sold at public auction, and Belleville Center District 22 annexed the land. The officers of the School Board were Will Hodgins, Director; Lucile Chappell, Clerk; and Raymond Vanous, Treasurer; at that time.

Let me add a postscript, Chas. Shull, one of the early settlers, at one time built and operated a mill. He ground grain for his neighbors to be used as flour for the family and feed for the livestock. The energy used was the wind and that was free. He built a large windmill; and when the wind blew as it sometimes does, there was his power. The mill was located a mile south of Settle Hill.

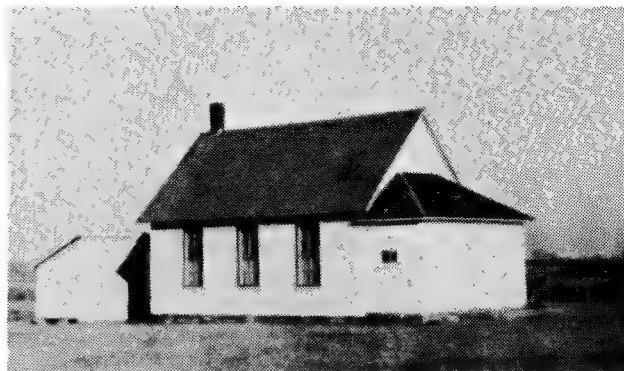
by Emma Frint Makalous

#### DISTRICT 109—WILLOW DALE

Willow Dale, District 109 is located four miles north and ½ east of Courtland. This schoolhouse is located in the SE corner of the SW¼ of Sec. 26 in White Rock Township. (Courtesy of Julia Hodge).

This district was formed July 7, 1885, by order of the Board of County Commissioners. Preliminary notices were posted in five public places in the district by E.S. McKay. Then notice of the first district meeting was posted July 7, 1885 by order of the county superintendent.

The first meeting was held at E.S. McKay's residence. At a special meeting to perfect the



organization, E.S. McKay was elected to serve as director, George B. Smith as clerk, and M.P. Cardwell as treasurer, to serve until August 13, 1885. At the Annual Meeting held on that date, the above officers were elected to serve their respective terms.

Miss Marie Vytlacil taught the term of 1940-41. Her pupils were Don Peterson, Jim Peterson, Helen Linden and Melvin Tebow.

Mr. Carl Westin was the teacher in 1921-22. According to a Souvenir that year the Board Members were Bert Veach, director; J.W. Rosenquist, treasurer; and A.E. Miller, clerk. Mrs. Frances J. Fickel was County Superintendent. The pupils were: Burton and Glenn Veach, George, Albert, Leonard, Clark and Carolina Freed; Willie Whitley, Myrtle Miller, Julia Hodge, Ruby Freed, Goldie Miller, and Hazel and Ruby Runyan.

Miss Mae Berggren taught this school in 1941 for \$50 per month. Her board members were: Earl Tebow, Charles W. Mizer, and Will Rosenquist. She boarded at Mizer's for \$12 a month.

In 1943-44 and 1944-45 Mae Berggren had returned to her second "family" the Mizers to teach the school for two years, but like so many other young ladies down through history, she became interested in a "certain board member" at District 24 Pleasant Valley. She did go there to teach at District 42, receiving a belated contract in August, 1946. The following April first some of the school children hurried down the road to relay the message to other children—"Miss Berggren has a diamond! Miss Berggren has a diamond!" She married that board member, Rex Sandell, in March 1947.

Mrs. Mae Berggren-Sandell recalls that one noon hour when they were all eating lunch in the schoolhouse at their desks, one little child had his foot on the seat with the sole of his shoe showing. Another pupil came along and said, "You've got soles in your holes!" She nearly choked with laughter. (Kids do say the Darndest things!)

The Willow Dale schoolhouse burned in September 1946, just a week before Dale Boyles was to have commenced a school term. A room was fixed up in the home of Will Rosenquist home nearby and school started on schedule with 8 pupils. They had borrowed a dictionary from Chas. Mizer and a set of encyclopedias from Earl Tebows.

These teachers served Willow Dale: May Glasgow,

Susie Riddlebarger, Bert J. Morris, Libbie Lawrence, Flora B. Ingham, Lyda McKay, Bessie Barer, Rose Barber, Verna Summers, Rachel Ferguson, Bessie Haney, Edna Hobson, Josie Hugos, Ruth Blackburn, Floy E. Anderson, Jessie Freund, Frank Bettis, Lydia Hammond, Mrs. Mary H. Freed, Carl Westin, Magdalena Baxa, Avis Maxon, Blanche Sanderson, Mabel Osborne, Leonard Van Nortwick, Lucille Elliott, Audrey Ebright, Merna Saunders, Frances Curtis, June Mahin, Argaret Mallon, Marie Vytlacil, Mae Berggren, Lula S. Cooper, Dale Boyles.

In 1924 the school sponsored a pie social and lunch to purchase an organ and a set of World Books.

On April 14, 1950 a special meeting was called at 1:30 p.m. for the purpose of disposing of buildings and other property belonging to District 109. It was voted to sell the property at public auction.

A special meeting was called to order by the director on the same date at 2:30 to vote to annex District 109 to Courtland District. The vote carried to annex to Courtland School District.

George Freed, Director  
Chas. Mizer, Clerk  
Earl Tebow, Treasurer

#### DISTRICT 110—MOUNT ERIE

Mount Erie School was in the NW corner of Sec. 20 in Fairview Township. It was 3 miles north of Belleville and 3 miles east. It was three miles south of Munden and two west. The Omaha-Chicago Line of the Rock Island Railroad passed just west of the schoolhouse.

The records do not give the organization date for this district, but the number would indicate that it was later than most of the others—perhaps 1888 or 1890.



Miss Mabel Walker (Swenson) taught here in 1916-17 and kindly loaned us a picture of the schoolhouse above.

The first Mt. Erie schoolhouse was probably built in 1888 with Anna Stubblefield as the first teacher. The board members were Jan M. Moravek, Joe Rundus and Wesley Klabzuba. A sheet from an old school register records these facts: Inez Sheeks taught the school term Sept. 6, 1897 to May 13, 1898 with thirty students attending school. Those listed were Rudolph and Charley Lahodny; Bessie, Charley, Anna and George Saip; George and Seavier Swaney; Joe Frank Rundus; Rosty Lachman; Rosy

Lahodny; Victoria Novak; Wesley Splichal; and George Lachman.

The first eighth grade graduate of this school was J.R. Moravek, Belleville. The teacher that year was Anna Jehlik of Belleville. Some of the early teachers were: Rosa Skocdople (Brokesh), Caroline Rundus and Agnes Yelek.

A sheet from an old school register was found loose and these facts were recorded on it. Inez Sheeks taught the school term from Sept. 6, 1897 to May 13, 1898 with thirty pupils attending. Their names were recorded as follows: Rudolph and Charley Lahodny; Bessie, Charley, Anna and George Saip; George and Scavier Swaney; Joe and Frank Rundus; Rosy Lachman; Rosy Lahodny; Victoria Novak; Wesley Splichal and George Lachman.



In 1904, October 17th, this picture was taken while Miss Jessie Boyce Kelly was teaching Mount Erie. The pupils were: back row, L to R- Adolph Moravek, Mabel Jones Boylan, Kristie Moravek Peterka, Lawrence Jones, William Klabzuba, Mary, Louis, and Bertha Klabzuba and the teacher Jessie Boyce Kelly. Front row: Mary Vishnefsky, Muriel Thompson, Evelyn Richards, Wesley and Joe Klabzuba, Adolph Janasek, Frank Vishnefsky, and Stanley Richards. Picture is courtesy of Anna Janasek.



In 1913 it was decided to build a new and better building. Adolph Janasek bought the old building. It is still being used as a granary on that farm. The picture here shows the last Mount Erie School building on the day that

it was sold circa 1950. It is now a part of a residence in Belleville. Picture courtesy of Adolph Moravek.

In 1913 it was decided to build a newer, better schoolhouse which was done. The old building was purchased by Adolf Janasek and is still being used as a granary on that farm.

Some of the earlier teachers were—Vergie Goodger, Rosa Skocdopole, Milton Sherrard, Caroline Rundus, Agnes Yelek, Olive Moravek, Lloyd Novak, Leola Kipper, Mable Mitchell, Emma Koukol and Marie Vytlacil.

The Rock Island track switch and siding was located just west of this school ground. The trains running on this track were clearly visible from both the north and south windows of the school house which faced west. This track ran from the northeast to the southwest in order to connect Munden and Belleville. Not many schools would have this daily performance so near by to afford diversion to the pupils and sometimes distraction to the teacher!



Mt. Erie in 1939 had these pupils taught by Miss Woodford: Back row—L. to R. John Horak, Grace Woodford, George Janasek, Front row—Evelynn Moravek, Bon Moravek, Marcella Horak, Ruby Horak. Picture is courtesy of Adolph Moravek.

It seems that 1942-43 was the last term school was held in this school. Grace Woodford was the last teacher. The last board members were A.M. Moravek, C.F. Horak, and Adolf Janasek. Records show that tuition and transportation were paid for students to go elsewhere. This district soon became part of the Munden district.

In April 1940 while Marie Vytlacil was teaching Mt.



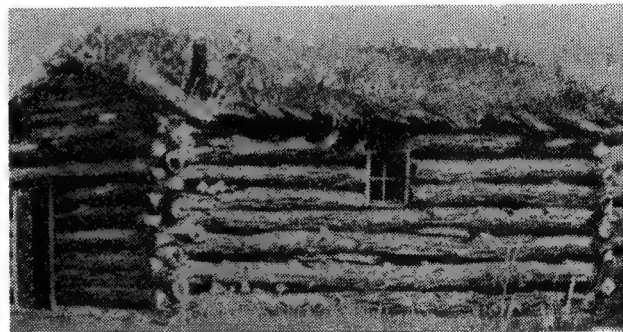
Erie, this picture shows the following pupils: back row, left to right—Evelynn Moravek, Bon Moravek, Marcella Horak. Front row: Bette Morehead, and Melvin Morehead. Apparently, Ruby Horak was not present that day.

The School Board were: Adolph Moravek, W.G. Splichal, and Adolph Janasek.

Students were sent to other schools as the enrollment grew smaller and, eventually, in 1944 it was voted to annex the district to Munden, District 20.

#### CUBA'S SCHOOLS: DISTRICT 4 to DISTRICT 111

The log cabin school of the first Cuba settlement was the second school in Republic County. It was called School District No. 4. It was located in section 35 of Farmington Township near the south east corner of the north west quarter of the NW¼. This reasonably places the location very close. (It has been stated, in the past, as in many places in section 35). We have now established this location, as from the location of the second school, which has been proven. It was located across the road west of what was later the north part of Haworth Cemetery. After 1916 Haworth Cemetery was called Mill Creek Cemetery, even though it was deeded to Mill Creek Cemetery in 1892.



The Cuba settlement wanted a place for education, for their children and those of the area. So in the summer and fall of 1867 the log cabin school was started. Men of the settlement's area all worked together in building this school. They cut the oak trees from Mill Creek, to the south and west. They built their school on land in section 35 in Farmington Township, homesteaded by Z.R. Rowe and Jacob Hull. They were the first settlers in May of 1866 in Farmington. Later this land became the Grant Arbuthnot farm. (James G. Arbuthnot is the same person). These logs were cut, hewed, sized and brought to the land where they wanted their school. When finished, it was a crude log cabin building, but they had their school. The cracks between the logs were clincked with clay-mud from the clay banks of the creek. Thus the walls were solid, for warmth and protection against the winds and the cold. The roof had small log timbers holding up the sod roof. The floor was sod and earth. This building had small windows for light and a door. It was finished during the winter of 1867-68.

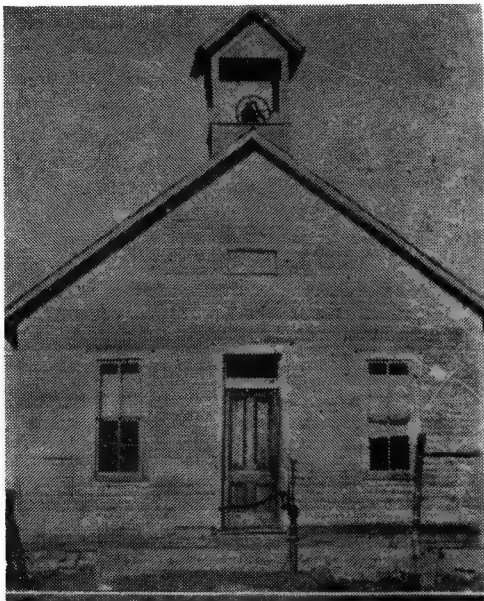
In the spring of 1868 the school was ready to be used. The people of the settlement and the area prepared for a big celebration. The wives and mothers of the area prepared the biggest "feed" the area had ever had. They had everything to be eaten in those days. The food was



there for the taking; such as, Indian cake, roast turkey, prairie chicken, wild choke-cherry and wild strawberry preserves, corn bread and more and more good food. Settlers for miles and miles around were there for the dedication and the celebration of Cuba's first school.

In either the spring or summer of 1868 school was taught here for the first time. Miss Viola McBride was the first teacher in the school. It is believed that she was the daughter of William McBride, one of the first settlers coming in the summer of 1866. Her pupils were of all ages and totaled 18. The school district covered an area of 9 by 15 miles. It was then, or later, called School District No. 4.

By March 30, 1871 District No. 4 school's area was section 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, and 36 in T-2S, R-1W in Farmington Township. On that day W.G. McBride was elected as the district's school treasurer. There is no mention if or who was elected as director and clerk. On the 28th day of March in 1872 the district's officers elected were, Richard Miller, director; E.H. Chapell, clerk and W.G. McBride, treasurer. Later on "Dec. 16, 1872 H.H. Hoffman was appointed clerk, vice E.H. Chapell, elected and George Plum, director in place of R. Miller, elected."



The actual date is unknown, but before 1873 or 1874 this log cabin school was torn down and a new frame school building was built. The new school was located in the north east corner or the north east quarter of the NW¼. Many of the logs of the old log cabin were used as beams, joists and supports in the building of the new frame school. It was built a quarter of a mile to the east.

By late 1873 and early 1874 the settlement had grown. It now had more people, a school, a post office and a store. (It has never been proven there actually was a store or a trading post here. But it is believed there must have been one as claimed). At this time the town fathers, John Harris, Jr. and Grant Arbuthnot, decided to move the Cuba settlement further to the west and south, about 2 to 3 miles, on the homestead of John Harris, Jr. About this time there was talk that a railroad was coming through from the south east. It was to pass by this location going west. A few years and arguments passed, the government, the people and the railroad could come to no agreement, so the proposed routing and railroad fell

through. Thus Cuba became located in its second location. The children though still had to go to school in the new frame school building in the old location. By this time Farmington Township had been divided, the lower east two thirds was now Richland Township. This new town was in the upper part of section 4 in the north west corner of Richland and across the road in the south west corner of section 33 in Farmington Township.

Here we find confliction in the schools. No. 4 is now also known as Haworth No. 4. But there is no connection between it and the first two of Cuba schools. History states the first Cuba settlement school as No. 4. So the second school there would also be No. 4. Haworth No. 4 was built some years later, it was built in 1878 in the same section 35, of Farmington Township. It was in the southeast corner of the NE¼ of the NW¼. It was very near the same location of the second school, but about a quarter of a mile farther south. Thus we should not confuse it with the first two Cuba schools. This school faced the south.

At Cuba's second location we again have a question of schools. Some ask why Farmington School No. 7 was not used? The actual school records are vague. No doubt, then there was no Farmington School No. 7. So the children had no choice, but to go to the newly built second Cuba settlement school. It has been stated that the Farmington School was built about this time when second Cuba moved to the third location in 1884. But Farmington School is mentioned in early day storms in 1879. So then, no doubt the children later went to Farmington School No. 7 instead of the old Cuba settlement school, until the town moved to its present location. This could easily be so because, when Haworth School No. 4 was built in 1878, then already the second school of the Cuba settlement had been moved or was torn down. So from then on it is possible the children went to Farmington School No. 7 until Cuba moved in 1884.

After March 30, 1871 there were a number of changes in district No. 4's boundaries. On August 27, 1887 the boundaries of School District No. 4 with alterations and detachments included as follows. In Farmington Township the W½ of section 26, all of 27, SE¼ section 28, all of 34, W½ of 35. Also, in Richland Township was the N½ section 3 and the NW¼ of section 1.

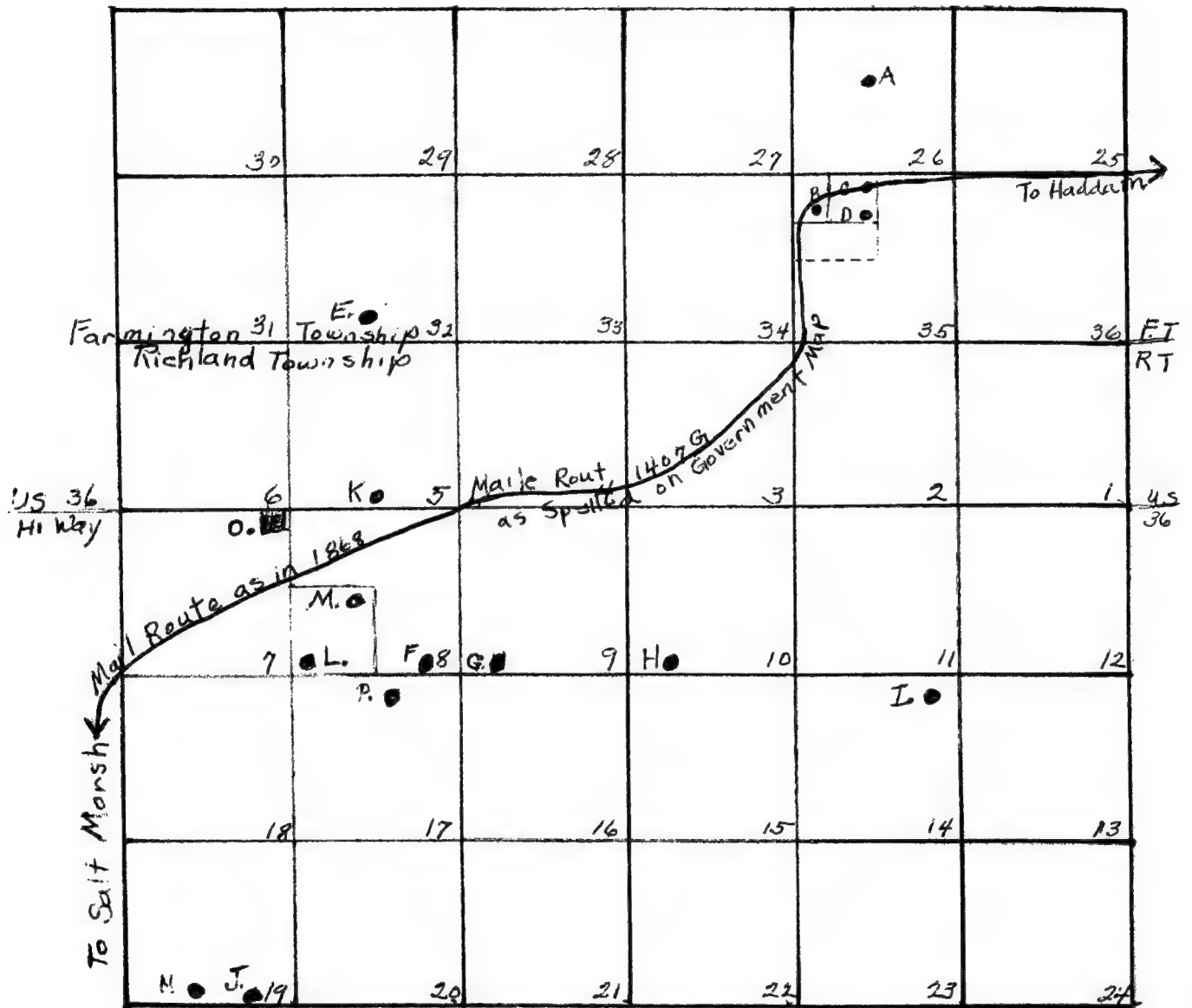
For a brief period of time this area was without a school. This was between the time that Cuba moved to its second site and before Haworth No. 4 school was built. On January 14, 1888 it was decided to attach all of school district 117 (this district was established August 27, 1887) to District No. 4. This included in Farmington Township the E½ section 26, all of section 25, all of 36, E½ section 35. Then in Richland Township NE¼ section 2 and the N½ of section 1.

The records show that on February 10, 1888 the transfer of all of District 117, which was just east of District 4, was added to District 4. It also stated that on and of that date District 117 was discontinued. The District 117 in Lincoln Township, known as Lone Tree School, was established Dec. 17, 1887. So for a brief time there were two District 117 in Republic County.

Due to the B & M Railroad by-passing the second Cuba location, the town decided to move again. This time they moved to section 8 in Richland Township. They took up all of the SW¼ in 1884 next to the railroad. The population was greater by this time and the need of a school was greater. Since around 1869 there were settlers in

### MAP OF THREE CUBA'S—SCHOOLS AND AREA

Location of the two settlement schools, corrected March 6 1976



Map Researched and Drawn by E.F. Stepanek, March 6, 1976

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| A. Mapes Log Cabin  | I. Bates School No. 51   |
| B. Location Cuba's 1st School No. 4. 1867-68  | J. White School No. 29   |
| C. Positive Location Cuba's 2nd School (Frame) Faced North                                    | K. Private School — Where First Taught in 3rd Location             |
| D. Haworth School No. 4 — Faced South. Mail Route in 1868 from Haddam to Salt Marsh thru Cuba | L. Cuba's Rock School — No. 111 - 1886. Red Brick School — 1912-13 |
| E. Farmington School No. 7  | M. Hillcrest Schools — Cuba's Present Schools                      |
| F. Log Cabin School. Built in 1869  | N. South Hall  |
| G. School No. 12. Moved 1 mile east   | O. Walther's Station   |
| H. 2nd Location, Beebe School No. 12  | P. Bohemian Fraternal Hall   |

the area and teaching of children had to be done by families or private groups. This was the case in all thinly settled area, then everywhere. Jefferson Baird taught a group in the Smith home in about the middle of the upper SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 8, until a log cabin school was built in 1869 in the south east corner of section 8. This school was first taught by Clara Tucker. Then the school passed from one teacher to another, most were locally prominent people. This school (without a name) was discontinued in 1879 (It is often confused with Cuba's first log cabin school). After the closing of this school the children were transferred to what later became Beebe School No. 12. This new frame school was across the road to the east in section 9. It was later moved one mile further to the east, on the same corner, but in section 10. At this location it was called Beebe School.

In the late 1880's or early 1890's there was a Bohemian Fraternal Lodge Hall in the area, south east of present south east corner of Cuba. They built their Hall in Cuba in 1907. In its earlier days they taught school here also. In the 1890's Steve Benyshek, Sr. taught school here. It was a Bohemian Language School. This was located in the north west corner of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of section 17 in Richland Township.

In 1884 there was no school in the new Cuba. In 1885 a Miss Flora from Wilbur, Nebraska came and taught a private school in a private home north of the town. A new large two story rock school building was built at the south west corner of the new town. I. Prymek supervised the building of the school. He also was one of the first School



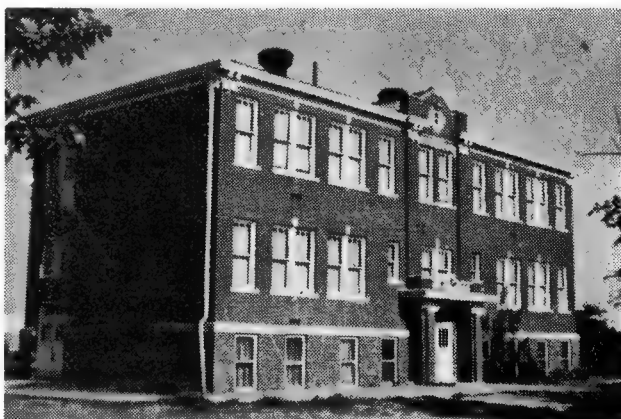
Board members. This building was completed and opened for the school term in 1886. In 1885 George Culver was elected to teach this new school. This school is stated to have been a two-teacher school. If there was another teacher that year, the teacher is unknown. In this building, the school began its two year High School course, which was probably in 1891. This Cuba school was called School District No. 111. It had both the grade and the high school. The writer has not been able to find any record of when and who graduated in the first class of this two-year high school course. But the class of 1901 states, their class was the tenth annual commencement. They were: Frank Hostinsky, Elsie Walters, Charles

Slopansky, Maude Sager, Edgar Walters, Wamie Nutter, Dollie Sherman, Ralph Walters, Lenore Torree, Bill Dannefer, Jessie Sherman. In 1912 due to the greater need of a larger school this rock school was torn down. On the same location was erected a large two-story red brick school.



This picture taken Jan. 30, 1911-1912, was of the old rock school, which was torn down and a new brick building built in 1912. It is possible that this was the last year that school was taught in this building.

Pupils in the front row are: Julia Woodhouse, Nellie Woodhouse, Agnes Mapes, Clara Wiruth, Anna Huncovsky, Matilda Opocensky, Lloyd Sissel, Anna Hostinsky, Agnes Barton, Alfa Shellhammer, Jerry Havel, Ed Barnett, Ladimer Kolman, Billy Pell. Those in the back row are: Dora Engle, Bess Kelley, Chet Flint, Ollie Hanel, Parley Plottner, Superintendent, Nellie Engle, Hazel Kerns, Billy Shellhammer, Nellie Davis, Fred Prymek, Bertie Nutter, Geo. W. Houdek, Marie Vacha, Ben Barnett, Lester Shrouf, Grace Shellhammer.



Picture taken end of term of 1911-12. The last year of the rock school building.



Picture was submitted by Magdalena Pachta.

Teacher is Betty (Wiruth) Calbert.

Some of the pupils are not in the actual rows, catching those out of the row. The pupils (all that we can name) are as follows; Back row, Left to right--Frank Schneberger, Bill Schneberger, Frank Janousek, Gladys Woodside, Mary Havel, Alberta Opocensky, Rosa Kusy, Agnes Janousek, blank, blank, Eloise Preble, Ollie Kusy, Helen Northrup. Middle row, left to right--Blank Hill, Blank Hill, Louise Barton Besse Opocensky, Blank Hill, Viola Kohout, Marcella Kohout, Laura Celoud, Alice Smith, Myra Barnett, Gertrude McDonald. Front row seated, those out of row counted last, left to right--Clark Smith, Frank Havel, Frankie Celoud, Carl McDonald, blank, blank, Wesley Walek, Ralph Dittmore, Blank Shrouf, Blank Shrouf, Lester Hill, blank, Vincent Pachta, Robert Dittmore.

During this time we again have confusion. It is stated in some old history that some homes, stores and churches were used to teach the children in classes. So these, other than these already mentioned, I doubt if some were built yet in 1884 to 1886? So this would place them, between the time the rock school was being town down and the red brick school was being built. If so, then this would have been the Free Methodist Church (It was remodeled later into the John Jehlik home). Also the second building south of the Community Hall (it was the store and home of Emma Kotek's parents). There were other homes or places used at that time too.

When the red brick building was finished and ready for use, for both the grade and the high school, it was still called No. 111. Its opening day was in February of 1913. On that Day my wife (Laura Stepanek-Stepanek) started there in fourth grade. A 4 year high school course was established in 1914. In the first 4 year graduating class they were, Olive Hanel, Anne Kuchera, Anne Hostinsky, Matilda Opocensky, Edd Barnett, Jerry Havel, Adolph Filingier. This was the class of 1915. In 1937 the high school was a class B school.



On May 4, 1914 Miss Euna Arrasmith, the County Superintendent, visited Cuba School. She is standing at the left, next is the Eighth Grade teacher Miss Elizabeth Panek, then two girls Lucille Sanger and Eloise Preble. Those seated in the row at the left, front to back are: Arthur Hanel, Ladimer Opocensky, Mabel Woodside, and DeWitt Kelley. Second row from the left: Marlin Evans, Ruby Northrup, Blanche Petr, Charles Wiruth, Laura Peterka. Third row from the left: Gladys Woodside, Carl McDonald, Edward Petr, Jay Flemming, Ed Barnett, George Hall. Fourth row from the left: Bessie Opocensky,

Mary Havel, Alberta Opocensky, Charles Sanger, Will Schneberger and Clark Smith. Fifth row from the left: Helen Northrup, Louise Barton, Ted Shimek, Matilda Schneberger, Nettie Sterba, and Frank Schneberger.

(Picture loaned by courtest of Mrs. Matilda Schneberger-Kolman)



Picture was taken in 1915.

Picture was submitted by Bill Schneberger.

The members of the high school band are listed by rows from left to right. They are listed as follows, Back row, left to right--James Fleming, Marlan Evans, William Schneberger, Dee Kelley, Theodore Shimek. Middle row, left to right--Ed Peters, George Hall, Adeloph Filingier, Ladimer Opocensky, Arthur Hanel. Front row seated, left to right--Carl Traver, Charley Sanger, Frank Schneberger Charlie Wiruth, Wesley Valek, Rollie Smith.



Picture taken in the spring of 1916.

Picture submitted by Bill Schneberger.

Pupils and the teacher are listed, in order, in rows from left to right.

Back row, left to right — Alberta Opocensky, William Schneberger, Lucile Sanger, Frank Schneberger, Hallie Tatman. Middle row, left to right--Clark Smith, Marie Havel, Charles Sanger, Flossie Napier, Ted Shimek. Front row, seated, left to right--Helen Northrup, Inez Sissell, Lewis Jeardoe, teacher, Bessie Opocensky, Louise Barton.



The Second Annual Republic County Commencement in 1919 included nine from Cuba: Front row- Bill Opocensky, Ed Schneberger, Paul Dittmore, Frank Celoud. Second row: Olive Benyshek, Louis Dittmore and Eleanor Veroda (girls all wore the white middy dresses with navy ties that year.) The back row: John Kesi and Ed Dorman.

In the annual for 1925, "The Totem", it is stated; L.F. Montague as a professor and that he headed the Cuba schools. It also mentions Miss Vendla Wahlen, English teacher; Miss Anna Stewart, Mathematics; Miss Louise Barton, Primary Room; Miss Irma Harris, Grammar Room and Miss Laura Celoud, Intermediate Room. The school board was Charlie Kesi, Fred Houdek and Emanuel Schneberger. The janitor was James Barton. A tribute was made to Miss Mary Jansky, the County Superintendent, as reprinted here-with; - "Miss Jansky attended school in Cuba for many years. During her good old school days, she covered every inch of the territory in and around Cuba in her bare feet. When Miss Jansky was a youngster she knew where to find the finest violets, the largest gooseberries and on the darkest nights she would go to the literary meeting that was held in the old school building. We have decided this is a very appropriate time and place to show our appreciation for the work she has done as a County Superintendent in the past years.

We indeed, feel very proud of the fact that this intelligent and energetic person once belonged to our school."

Laura E. Stepanek taught four consecutive terms in the Cuba Grade School System. She taught the Intermediate Grades 4, 5, and 6. These were the terms of 1925-26, 1926-27- 1927-28 and 1928-29. The next fall she went to Kansas State College at Manhattan to further her education.



About 1929-30 is this Cuba High School band out to pose for a picture. Miss Rucker was the instructor, then Ben Blazek, Ernie Kolman, Lad Trecek, Wesley Klaumann, Elmer Dolezal, Richard Havel, Glen Lahodney and Elbert Macy-Director. Sitting are Charles Herink, Raymond Trecek, Duane Jehlik and Darrell Kiger. From eleven members to forty-two musicians under the direction of Mr. Harley Doak in 1961-62 showed steady growth over thirty years. Back row are: Charlene Havel, Sheril Rhine, Cindy Wiruth, Kirk Nafziger, Jim Trecek, Monte Jakabosky, Diana Huncovsky, LaRae Havel, Randy Kopsa and Phyllis Opocensky. Middle row shows: Gary Nafziger, Arnold Barton, Raymond Baxa, Lannie Trecek, Jane Nobert, Freddie Baxa, Ella Baxa, Robert Fisher, Audrey Kunc, Lawton Kunc, Herman Williams, Greg Kopsa, Janice Nekuda, Marilyn Benyshek and Mr. Harley Doak. The front row shows: Sue Bowers, Stevie Benyshek, Louise Heina, Barbara Chizek, Nadine Benyshek, Galen Shimek, Annette Baxa, Linda Havel, Angela Shimek, Suzanne Reynolds, Marvine Baxa, Virleen Makalous, Judith Nobert, Larry Hadachek, Joleen Havel, Linda Benyshek, Vicki Lichtenhan and Trudy Drapal. (Pictures are courtest of Marie Klima.)



1931, 32, 33, 34 classes at Cuba were as follows: Back row: Frank Blazek, Geneva Wiruth, Violet Shema-Rizek, Viola Benyshek-Beneda, Mr. L. Baldwin-Supt., Inez Snyder, Elbert Macy, Margaret Johnson, Oma Belle Stafford-Havel, Bill Pitner-Janitor. Second row: John Ward, Ben Blazek, Ernest Kolman, Elmer Dolezal, Glen Lahodny, Vernon Kesi, Howard Cundiff, Ed Kolbaba, Harold Davidson, Wesley Klaumann, Alvin Barton. Third row: Anna Tuma, Velda Hubbard, Marcella Blazek, Afton Davidson, Uvalena Scarborough, Leora Strnad, Helen Dannefer, Elsie Panek, Gayle Warner, Leona Lesovsky, Iola Houdek Scott, Alma Bergstrom. Fourth row: Blanche Kolbaba, Lillian Barton, Rachel Swan, Gayle Lahodny, Delores Jehlik, Lucille Hadachek, Helen Lesovsky-Shulda, Georgetta Wiruth, Marie Drapal-Klima, M. Ward.

Fifth row: Richard Havel, Lawrence Makalous, Darrel Kiger, Frank Beneda, Floyd Cundiff, Barney Vince, Lad Trecek, Phil Preble. Sixth row: Duane Jehlik, Emil Havel, Doyle Stafford, Raymond Trecek, Leonard Klimek, Ed Klimek, Charles Herink.

In August of 1932 Harry B. Olson came to the Cuba schools. For 26 years he served as a teacher and superintendent in the school system. During those years he taught most classes, manual training and both boys and girls athletics. His athletic teams were outstanding and won many tournaments.

The annual for 1937 called "The Cuba Chapter," in it is written by the juniors for the year of 1936 and 1937, this tribute to Mr. Olson. This dedication is as follows; - "To our professor Harry B. Olson, who has stood by us through our trials and given his supreme efforts and support to our school, we owe a deep debt of gratitude we can never repay. His faithfulness, his willingness to lend a helping hand when we were in doubt; his assuring voice, when we thought the world had turned against us; and his everlasting love that shines from his eyes as our guiding light; we shall always remember. In appreciation we the Junior Class of 1937 lovingly dedicate to him this Chapter."

In the year of 1936-37 in the grade school faculty were, Miss Evelyn Schaefer, primary room; Miss Vaughnita Brick, Intermediate room; and Miss Ann Filing, Grammar room. The high school faculty were Harry B. Olson, superintendent, - they list him as follows; - "Mr. Olson—His home town is Lindsborg, Kansas, but he spends the large share of his past summers in Cuba. He can be found downstairs in the manual training, upstairs in Agriculture and Mathematics II, or at the Hall with the basketball teams. No matter where he can be found, you can be sure, he is teaching how to do the right thing at the right time."—Other faculty members were, Mr. Leslie Neywick, mathematics; Miss Kroeker, Home economics and history; Miss Margaret Morrison, science, English and music. The janitor was John Hubbard. Members of the Senior Class were, Opal Andrews, Helen Blazek, Joe Blazek, Paul Carpenter, Marlon Havel, Viola Havel, Arleen Hubbard, Marcelene Junek, Denzil Kalivoda, Vernon Kalivoda, Kenneth Makalous, Donald Olson (Harry Olson's son), Uleen Rytych, Glennard Sklenicka, Tressie Strnad, Lodis Tuma.

The Juniors of that year (the writers of the Cuba Chapter) were as follows, - Maurice Armstrong, Ruth Beneda, Berniece Fyrst, Lenora Klauman, Olive Koukol, Irene Lesovsky, Vincent Lesovsky, Eileen Makalous, Giles Mottl, Helen Nesvarba, Ladimer Panek, Irene Stafford, Charles Valek.

Some time before 1948 the high school became the Rural High School District No. 4. So for a number of years it has become again a struggle for more room. A quansit had been built to the south west of the building for manual training. But still more room was needed. So on August 19, 1958 Silverthorne School from district 34 was moved in and added to the school building on the north. This addition was remodeled and used as the music department, lunch room and kitchen for the scool. This still did not take care of the needs.

In March of 1960 the community voted and approved bonds for a new school. In late summer of 1960 construction began on Cuba's fifth school building. It is located in the northeast corner of the town, near the



athletic field. The Lions Club was instrumental in May of 1957 in promoting interest in obtaining an athletic field for the youth of the school. To this project, the American Legion, William Fleming Post No. 345 made the first donation of \$500.00. By July of 1958 final payment for the athletic field had been made.

Construction of the building was completed and ready for the fall term of 1961. The building is buff colored brick. It is a one story building and is 150 feet by 220 feet in size. It has a 70 foot gymnasium with a full regulation size court with folding bleachers on the north side and a stage for the auditorium on the south. This school was built for both the grades and the high school. The lunch room is in the corridor with folding tables and seats that disappear into the wall when not in use. There is a modern domestic science room. This has a duel set, consisting of two kitchen units and the room has cabinets and is equipped for sewing. The grade school play grounds are to the south of this building.

The fall term of 1963 started the first kindergarten held in the Cuba school system. The kindergarten was held in the English Room in this new building. The members of this first kindergarten class are the members of this springs Senior graduating class. The members of this kindergarten class are, the teacher was Mrs. Margaret Glaser, Belinda Havel, Pamela Dowell, Edna Shulda, Mark Kolman, Wayne Benyshek, Pamela Bunch, Vicki Marsicek, Terry Kolterman, Patrick Reynolds.





These children now Seniors will graduate with the Hillcrest Senior Class this spring in 1976. Except as follows, Terry Kolterman's father was a teacher and they have moved to another town. Pat Reynolds took special tests at the Junior College at Concordia and graduated one year earlier. Vicki Marsicek and Marc Kolman are taking "DECA" at Belleville but will graduate with this years class at Hillcrest. Belinda Havel is the writers granddaughter.

Rarely did any one realize when kindergarten first started in the Cuba schools, that the first class, would graduate under these special conditions. Not only will this first class graduate this spring, they will be the class of '76. This makes them the United States Bicentennial year graduating class. It is a memorable year to each of them on their countries 200th Anniversary and their graduation.

At about this time a tradition that was enjoyed by the community was discontinued. It was the last day of school "pot luck" dinners. This was always on the last day of school. There was always more than plenty of good food and every one took their share. This was one day when the older people liked to go back to school.



Teachers and school personell of Cuba in 1961-1962 were Mrs. Evelyn Kosek, Mrs. Ella Moravek, Miss Karen Lowman, Ben Krob, janitor, Edwin Thieman, Bill Gorsuch, Superintendent Robert Engle, Elmer Brown, John Kolterman, Harley Doak, Mrs. Marie Klima, Mrs. Olive Fojt, Mrs. Pearl Kopsa, cook, Mrs. Blanche Klima, cook.



Pupils in the 5th and 6th grades in Cuba in 1962 were: Back row; Verna Rae Makalous, Susan Lahodny, John Reynolds, Paula Skocny, Robert Matousek, Louise Heina, Darrel Kopsa, Kathy Bowers, blank, Mrs. Marie Klima, teacher, Dennis Chopp. Middle row: Jeannie Chizek, Connie Lahodny, Carolyn Baxa, Susie Skucius, Edyth Shulda, Mona Hoover, Joyce Hostinsky. Front row: David Svoboda, Marty Skocny, Robert Huncovsky, Donnie Plevka, Tommy Pelesky, Larry Hadachek, Sam Wiruth,

Merle Hadachek. (These pictures courtesy of Mrs. Marie Klima).

Previous to July 1, 1966 our schools were in School District No. 111. In September and October of 1964 the red brick school was torn down. The old Silverthorne part was left to stand. Clayton Jones was the last superintendent of No. 111. At this time our high school was RHS No. 4.

After July 1, 1966 there was the Unification of Schools and it became Unified School District No. 455. This new district took in Narka, Agenda, Wayne, Talmo and the Cuba areas. After the red brick building was torn down and the Silverthorne part was being remodeled, kindergarten was held in the American Legion Hall building. Ray Salmon was the first superintendent of the new school system No. 455. Ellis Baloun was the principal. After the remodeling of Silverthorne part was completed, it was used for the kindergarten and the office for District No. 455. This school system after the unification was known as Hillcrest High School. The name Hillcrest being selected by the student body. It is believed that soon after the unification, this school system was classified as Class 1A. It remains as class 1A at this time.

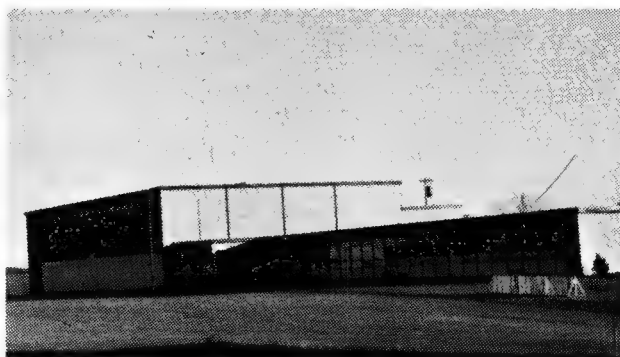
After unification, all the high schools joined at the new school in Cuba. It then became known as Hillcrest Rural Schools No. 455. The grade schools though came later. Talmo and Wayne grades had already joined Agenda. Then the Agenda grades joined Hillcrest in the fall of 1968. Narka grades joined in the fall of 1970. Then all the schools in District No. 455 were joined together at Hillcrest.

The old school bell in the rock school and the red brick school is being saved. Bells such as this, are no longer used in the school systems. But this old bell brings back memories to many in the area to both students and teachers alike. It now has a place of "honor" on the lawn of the Hillcrest Schools.

Today, this Hillcrest School building stands with many additions. After unification they definitely then needed more space. First a quansit was added to the north east for shop. An addition was next added to the east for music, agriculture, social science and a metal shop. Grade school rooms were added to the south. Then to the south west was added a building for arts, wood working and shop. As of now, an addition is being built to the west. This will be for the kindergarten and class rooms. The present superintendent of the school system is Dr. John S. Shaw.

Unless otherwise stated, all pictures are courtesy of E.F. Stepanek.

Researched and written by,  
E.F. Stepanek.  
March 15, 1976.



## DISTRICT 112—RED TOP SCHOOL

We do not have a record for the organization date of Red Top School, but the land site for the schoolhouse was obtained from Elijah Goodwin. It was located in the SW corner of Section 25 in Scandia Township, three miles east and three south of Scandia. This "last day of school" picture (1927) shows the children and patrons as well as part of the building.



In 1906-07 Silva Fogelberg began her six years of teaching at Red Top. In these early years this was a remarkable record. Other early teachers were: Nellie Anderson, Margie Carpenter-Stanton, Merna Bowling, Esther Aberg-Johnson, Bessie Fulcomer-Henry, Thelma Morfit-Lowell and Cleo Brennenstool.

The only records available (1925-47) showed these teachers for District 112: Wayne Smith, Alfred Walker (pictures furnished by him), Paul Wilber, Minnie McPeck, Theresa Kelly, Maurine Larson, Thelma Larson, Glenn Barleen, Betty Larson, Ruth E. Hedstrom, Shirley Brown and Eva Ames. In this interior picture are the pupils sitting at both the "double desks" and the "single" desks.



In 1927 we have this interior of Red Top School (courtesy of Charles Fike) showing the display of the flag. It was near the time of the Kansas Law requiring every school to fly the flag outside on nice days and to display another flag inside. The pupils in the back row left to right: Blanch Ames, Lucille Mahaffey, Clare Lash, Second row: Florence Ames, Pauline Milner, Floyd Lash,



Charles Fike, and an unidentified pupil. Front row: Maxine Ames, Maxine Drovetta, Mona Claire Milner and another unidentified.

In 1937 a piano was purchased, in 1938 a merry-go-round, and in 1941 the maps and globe. The pupils in these pictures were: Clare Lash, Blanche Ames, Florence Ames, Maxine Ames, Pauline Milner, Nona Clare Milner, Charles Fike, Floyd Lash, Lucille Mahaffey, Lawrence Nondorf, Mildred Nondorf, Maxine Drovetta and George Fike.



Betty Larson was teaching Red Top in 1942 when this picture was taken of her 8 pupils: Top row: Barbara Housholder, Ilene Norgard, June Verlee Olson. Middle row -Eva Marie Olson, Marilyn Walker and Wilma Wilber. Bottom row -Bobby Olson, Don Wilber.

At the Annual Meeting on April 9, 1948 a motion passed not to have school the coming year and to send pupils to other districts. Board members were: Chas. Sjolander, director; Alfred Walker, clerk; and Mrs. Susie Ward, treasurer.

Mr. Walker's philosophy must have been that all work and no play makes 'Jack a dull boy', because here we see





them all practicing the good American football game....and then concluding that work and play must be "taken in together, to make up a year and a sphere".

The building was purchased by Aloys Kesl of Belleville about 1949 to be converted into a house.



Charles Fike shared this picture taken during the term of 1930 and 31 while Mrs. Thressa Kelly was the teacher. The pupils are (left to right: Charles Fike, Floyd Lash, George Fike, Marion Kelly, Faye Kelly (both are Mrs. Kelly's children), Russell Dooley, teacher Mrs. Kelly, Mona Claire Milner, Lorraine Estelle Carpenter.



When Thressa Kelley taught Red Top these pupils were in attendance Frances and Winifred McGregor, Darwin and Barbara Householder, Russell Dooley, Faye

and Marion Kelley, Dorothy and Phyllis Donaldson, and George Kike, Jr. (Loaned by Mrs. Lloyd McGregor).

Some early memories of that little school located 4 miles south and one west of Rydal were that children liked to have the opportunity to leave school to bring water from Frank Williams or Bert Fulconer's wells about ¼ mile from the schoolhouse. Children who went to schools fortunate enough to have either a well or a cistern missed the wonderful trips after water. Early pupils who were contacted also recalled the enjoyable programs and box suppers held there at Red Top.



This picture (Courtesy of Lottie Berggren) is of Red Top pupils in 1907: Top row: Grace Fulcomer, Charlie Lash, Sylvia Fogelberg teacher, Mable Fulcomer and Edith Fike. Middle row: Vevia Griffith, Edna Nelson, Walter Henry, Elmer Aberg, Milton Nelson, Herbert Goodwin, Mervin Griffith, George Fike, Grace Williams and Bessie Fulcomer. Bottom row: Martin Aberg, Wilber Nelson, Godfrey Smith, Floyd Griffith, Lottie Fike, Mary Fike, Rose Bowling, Otis Lash, Harold Bowling, Arden Griffith.

#### PENTICO SCHOOL (LATER AGENDA GRADE SCHOOL)

The Pentico Schoolhouse was erected in January of 1887 in the NE corner of Sec. 17 in Elk Creek Township at the approximate time that Neva (now Agenda) was in its beginnings in the W½ of the NE¼ of Sec. 16 about a half mile away. This new school was organized out of the Original District 5 of early days. As many as 60 pupils attended this school most years. Some of the early teachers were: Ara Holland, Mr. Weirie, and Eva McCracken.

In the summer of 1901 this building was moved across the south pasture of the Romanzo Thompson farm, crossing the Rock Island Railroad track just north of the depot, and on to the present Agenda Grade School ground.

It is interesting to note that the building was set on running gears which had wooden wheels a foot wide. By means of a stump-puller and a horse, the building was slowly inched forward on planks. Neighbors who helped move the building remember that someone ran down across the pasture and said that President McKinley had been assassinated. His death occurred on Sept. 14, 1901.

School was held in this building at Agenda for nine years. Miss Addie Gile was the last teacher in the one room schoolhouse.

In 1910 this building was moved to the south part of the





Main Street in Agenda. In it E.P. Anderson had a furniture store and bowling alley. Some years later this building was moved again. This time it was remodeled into a residence a block east and then north to the Lloyd Trimble home of today.

Arch Thompson recalls that he was a little boy when this picture was taken. Miss Eva McCracken was an early teacher before 1900, who taught 14 years.

#### DISTRICT 113—AGENDA GRADE SCHOOL

About 1908 the graded system of elementary education was started. After the Pentico School was moved from the Agenda grounds in 1910, a two-room school was built in its place. The first teachers that year were Emma Adamson and Eulah Jordon. In the background, is the Presbyterian Church (1889).



About 1945 the school lunch program began in the hall of this building with elementary equipment valued at about fifty dollars. Food was prepared on a portable kerosene stove and each pupil furnished his own serving dishes and spoons. For a short time one cook was employed and then it became necessary to hire two cooks.

In 1954 after the Manning School, District 40, was moved to Agenda, the Grade School was remodeled into a three-room school making it a modern grade school.

The Agenda Grade School was the first in the county to operate school buses. Five school buses transported rural pupils to the Grade School and High School.

Mr. Ben Douppnik, Sr. began with the bus system in



1951 and continues to drive yet in 1976.

In 1966 the grade school moved into the high school building and the schoolhouse was unused until 1971 in November, the Agenda Service Center opened for business. In 1968 Unification of schools closed Agenda Grades and they went to Unified District 455, Hillcrest School, at Cuba. (Picture courtesy of Mrs. Clarence Havel).

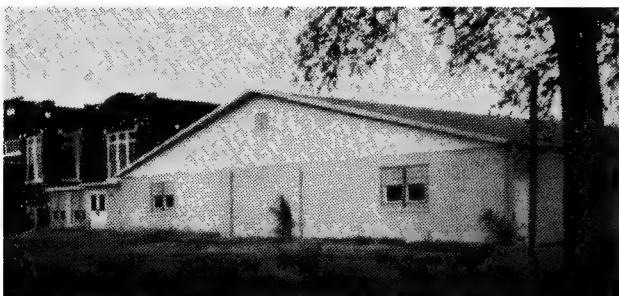
In 1912 the first year of high school subjects was taught to two students by Flora Ingham, the upper grade teacher in District 113. By 1914 the first year of high school was taught to three students by Lydia Berneking, also the upper grade teacher. in September, 1915 the doors of this



new high school designated as Agenda Rural High School No. 1, were thrown open to thirty-four boys and girls. There was no senior class, a few juniors, and the rest were freshmen and sophmores, about equally divided. Those first enrollees were: Alice Anderson, Ethel Anderson, Dorothy Baird, Dora Boal, George Day, Edward Houdek, John Holmberg, Merle Harbaugh, Harriet Campbell, Isador Lisher, Carl Long, Grace Long, Minnie Johnson, Carl Johnson, Marguerite Osborn, Ethel Henderson, May Roe, Even Rath, Robert Rath, Louise Ryser, Gladys Ryman, Lester Pentico, Earl Pentico, Gladys Pentico, Alerta Preble, Bernice Jones, Arch Thompson, Nellie Price, Joe Price, Clark Smith, Vance Lindahl, Glenn Manning and Chas. Douppnik.

On January 17, 1924 the Agenda Rural High School burned. E.C. Rath was principal at that time and was able to hold school in the Odd Fellows Hall and other vacant buildings as well as the church. It was replaced that year by the brick structure in the next picture.

From a copy of the first edition of the school paper, "The Acts and Facts" published by the high school, No. 1 Rural High School, for 1919-20 gives special recognition to boys who had interrupted their education to serve our country in World War I: "Lieutenant Carl Long,



Lieutenant Arch Thompson and Corporal Lester Pentico. It will be a proud day when A.R.H.S. says 'well done' and hands you your diplomas'. The other seniors in 1920 were: Grace Ryman, Ethel Anderson, Clark Smith, Florence Henderson, Evan Rath, Alerta Preble and Joe Price.

Juniors that year were: Creston Haworth, Vance Lindahl, Jewell Baecht, Anna Wurtz, Ruth Anthony, Henry Burt, Edward Houdek, Rudolph Larson, Beulah Hill, Frank Anderson, Arthur Smith, Ray Murray, Margaret Baird, Gladys Pierce, Pearl Dugger, Chester Welsh, Sievert Olson, Virgil Baecht, Francis Doupnik and Ruth Kramer.

There were 22 sophomores: Herbert Bradley, Bedford Houdek, Ella Smith, Lillian Henderson, Helen Opocensky, Ernest Houdek, Florence Cleveland, Ben Plucar, Wesley Thompson, Hazel Gilmore, Barbara Huncovsky, Dwight Nixon, Afton Pentico, Darrell Nixon, Hattie Peterson, Rebecca Marsh, Agnes Anderson, Delbert Carmichael, Alice Smith, Emil Larson, Olin Murray, Evelyn McHugh.

These 33 freshmen were listed: Anna Anderson, John Doupnik, Ethel Ekstrom, Melik Kolman, Glenn Lindahl, Blanche Magnus, Glenn Miller, Meltha Pentico, Frank Plucar, Roy Shepard, Doris Walton, Eileen Baird, Elnora Doupnik, Helen Doupnik, Herbert Lundgren, Rosie Magnus, Mary Mikulecky, Millard Anderson, Dale Dugger, Marion Heina, Claude Lisher, Hazel Lindamood, Vera McNemar, Lloyd Olson, Antonie Plucar, Lorna Smith, Earl Shellhammer, Nellie Hyland, Cody Pentico, Amelia Plucar, Wendall Stuart, Leonard Wurtz and Minnie Hyland.

Normal Training was offered for the last time in Agenda in 1947-48 and taught by Mrs. Stricklin. This had provided training for prospective teachers for many years, but now college requirements made it necessary for teachers to take more training.

Many our-lying rural school districts had annexed to Agenda Grade School which made it necessary for the first bus system in the county to begin operation. There were five buses that picked up both grade and high school pupils. Mr. Ben Doupnik, Sr. began driving with the buses in 1951 and continued to drive in 1976.

In 1959 the new auditorium and gymnasium was built onto the high school and greatly enhanced the school facility. This building with the new addition was listed as a great architectural work in the "National State Historical Book" 1975.

Due to the decrease in enrollments and changing State regulations, the last days of A.R.H.S. were the term of 1965-66. In the fall of 1966 the grade school moved into the high school building and continued to operate there until 1968.

The Unified District No. 455 was organized then with Narka, Cuba and Agenda. The school plant is located in

Cuba and was named Hillcrest School by a vote of the student body.

The last teachers at Agenda were Mr. Raymond Zurfluh, Mr. Leroy Schierkolk, for instrumental music Mr. Harold Chatelain and vocal Mrs. Margaret Opocensky. The last eighth grade graduates in 1968 were: Douglas Bowman, Ed Juneck, Mike Trimble, Glory Chizek, Mick Valek, and David Sarff.

#### DISTRICT 114—THOMAS SCHOOL

Preliminary notices for the organization of Thomas School District were posted January 20, 1887 and the district was formed, but the organization date is Feb. 15, 1887. The site selected for this schoolhouse was in the SW corner of Sec. 27 in Richland Township. This is three miles south and two east of Cuba, or two north and one east of Agenda. This District was formed out of the early District No. 5, which had comprised all of Elk Creek and the south half of Richland Townships.



We are indebted to Agnes Fojt for this 1911-12 picture of the schoolhouse when Mr. Charles J. Zavodsky taught these pupils: Back row- Antonia Sterba, Edw. M. Svoboda, John Kalivoda, Julia Svoboda-Kopsa, John Baxa, Ann Rott-Havel and Steve Kalivoda. Middle row: Agnes Fojt, Laura Baxa-Rott, Joe Svoboda, Charles Svoboda and Edward Svoboda, Frances Havel-Klabzuba, Joe Rott, Steve Chruma and Frank Rott. Front row: Wesley Chruma, Frank M. Havel, Tillie Svoboda-Soustek, Emil Fojt, Otis Pugh and Hazel Wert. A small boy is Wesley Benyshek. Teachers are Elmer Zavodsky and Charles Zavodsky.



In the 1898 picture at the left, Mrs. Esther Thomas-Larson says that the little girl holding the sign is her older

sister. The school was named after her family.

Mrs. Larson also has the book "Saved for Service" written in 1928 by Ary Jane Holland from which we take an incident: Ary Jane writes that her parents had a great desire to have a home of their own. At this time homesteads were being offered in Kansas to anyone who would go out there and make it their home. Her mother's favorite sister, Martha Thomas, was already living here on a claim, and she and her husband Joe persuaded them to come and take up a claim near them. This they decided to do.

Accordingly, in the early spring her father fitted out a moving wagon, and taking as much of his household belongings as he could, they started out for Kansas. Aunt Martha Thomas had been informed of their movements, so they all knew about when to expect them. When she spied them in the distance across the prairie, Uncle Joe Thomas came to meet them a half a mile away, while Aunt Martha made everything ready for their reception. This was a joyous meeting for the two sisters who had been separated for 17 years. These events were the beginning of very happy, though very hard years financially.

Uncle Joe assisted Conn in procuring his claim and all land was quickly being taken up. Most of it was raw prairie, so they must break it up and plant such crops as would grow on the sod. These grains and vegetables were limited. In order to keep the "wolf away from the door", Conn Holland taught school in the winter. As there were only two pairs of shoes for six children, the mother taught most of them at home.

The 1898 picture was taken when Della Holland was the teacher. She was Ary Jane's daughter. Della married Charley Baecht and was Virgil and Jewel Baecht's mother. Ary Jane Holland later became a missionary and spent the remainder of her life in Asia and when she died, she was serving on the island of Java where she now rests.

Of course, the story would not be complete without mentioning that Esther Thomas-Larson carried on the teaching tradition by serving in that capacity also, two years at Vanderbilt School that used to be located two miles north of Concordia and a mile east. She taught the terms of 1925-26 and 1926-27.



Here is a closer look at the pupils of 1911-12 when Mr. Chas. Zavodsky taught and we will name them going down in rows of three or four beginning on the left: Steve

Kalivoda, Charles Svoboda, Tillie Svoboda-Soustek, John Kalivoda, Edward Svoboda, Wesley Chruma, John Baxa, Frank Rott, Joe Rott, Frank M. Havel, Anna Rott-Havel, Steve Chruma, Hazel Wert, Julia Svoboda-Kopsa, Antonia Sterba, Laura Baxa, Emil Fojt, Joe Svoboda, Frances Havel, Otis Pugh, the teacher Mr. Zavodsky, Edward M. Svoboda. Agnes Fojt is absent.



It seems that a teacher remembers with very special the first school he or she taught. Miss Matilda Schneberger (now Mrs. Wesley Kolman) began teaching school at Thomas in 1918-19 and again in 1919-20. Here she is in the back row, then Clyde Oliver, Stanley Baxa, Anna Baxa-Malstead, Jerry Fojt, and Charles Rott. Middle row- Joe Fojt, John Valek, Lloyd Oliver and Wesley Benyshek. Front row- Olive Valek-Fojt, Rudolph Havel and Edgar Greenleaf.



Teacher—Olive Valek, Back row; Richard Havel, Ben Doseldo, Middle row; Mildred Doseldo, Leora Havel-Pentico, Front row; Donald Havel, Marlon Havel. (1927-28)

Here is a good picture of the swings, teeter-totters, and the teacher's car in 1929-30 when Laura Denk (Heina)





taught at Thomas School: Back row- Richard Havel, Marlon Havel, Emil Havel, Richard Lachman and Melvin Svoboda. Front row- Helen Valek, Lillie Rytych, Ollie Rytych, Irene Rytych, Miss Denk, Leora Havel, Gayle Rytych and Helen Rytych.

The first record of a teacher we found was in an 1894-95 Directory. Jacob Shellhammer of Agenda was the teacher, Chas. Kasl director, J.G. Thomas clerk, (this was "Uncle Joe"), and G.T.B. Smith treasurer.

1902-03 Lily E. Anderson Board members: B.A. Lorimer, Adolph Houel, and John Baxa

1904-05 Bernice Cosand

1906-07 Jennie Kelley

John Kalivoda had taken Lorimer's place.

1908-09 Leota Nutter taught 44 pupils: Johnnie, Yarmilka, and Milek Baxa, Wesley, Mae and Stephen Chruma, Charlie and Rosie Lachman, Edward, Myrtle, Hannah and Naomi Melton, Frank, Charlie, Frances, Annie and Mary Havel, Joe, Frank, Annie and Rose Rott, Otis and Elsie Pugh, Johnnie and Stephen Kalivoda, Hazel Wurtz, Bessie Williams, Fyrn Melton, Eddie Svoboda, Edward M., Charlie, Frances, Tillie and Joe Svoboda, Agnes and Emiel Fojt, Barbara and Henry Havel, Annie and Alfred Svoboda, and Frank Kalivoda.

1909-10 Barter Smith

1910-11 Chas. Zavodsky

1911-12 Jene Kelley

1912-18 Anna Zavodsky gave wide silk ribbon Souvenirs, two of which Mrs. Olive Valek-Fojt has loaned to us in the hope that our readers could get some idea of how lovely they were.

The last teacher at Thomas was Mr. Ben Huncovsky in 1951-52. The Board members were: Leon Junek director, Lawrence Benyshek clerk, and Charles Rott treasurer. The last pupils were Marlene Rott in the eighth grade and Gary Junek in the seventh grade. So pupils were then sent to other districts until 1954-55 when the schoolhouse and contents were sold on November 22, 1955. The order of disorganization was given April 20, 1955 and effective as of July 1, 1955.

The district was attached to District 228, District 113, and District 111. The land where the schoolhouse stood reverted to the owner of the SW corner of Sec. 27 in Richland Township for the sum of \$1.00.

# Thomas School District No. 114, Republic County, KANSAS.

## To My Dear Pupil.

"The joy to know true friends,  
But sad it is to part,  
To say good-bye to those  
Who dwell within the heart.

But life must partings bring  
To all at times, my dear,  
So we must say farewell  
At end of our school year.

May school days prove but  
steps  
Toward higher, nobler spheres,  
And richest blessings fall  
to you  
Through all the coming years.

Rudolph Havel	1st Grade.	Edgar Greenleaf
Joe Fojt	2nd Grade.	John Valek
Olive Valek	4th Grade.	Lloyd Oliver
Wesley Benyshek	5th Grade.	
Anna Baxa	Stanley Baxa	Clyde Oliver
Charley Rott	7th Grade.	Jerry Fojt
ANNA M. ZAVODSKY.		
Teacher.		
April 18, 1918.		

Wesley Pelesky bought the bell for \$3.00. Ben Shimek bought the organ for 70 cents. The building sold for \$325.00.

## LOWLAND NO. 115

District 115 of Republic County was organized and land set aside by order of B.S. Bullen, Co. Supt.

The first Board members were: Sherman Worman, W.H. Davenport, and E.S. Montange.

In 1894 the school board was listed as J.M. Graham, S. Worman and W.H. Davenport. The teacher was W.E. Benjamin. Salaries as this date ranged from \$25 to \$50 a month and the school term lasted from six to nine months with the majority having nine months.

Some of the early teachers in this district were Maude Whitcomb, Clarence Kirk, Sarah Jewel, W.E. Benjamin, and others. Some of the early students were: Frank, Millie, Wilford, Ross, Jay, and Minnie Worman; Paul, Albert, Ross, Alfred and Lizzie Davenport; Lena Jefferson; Clint Pressnall; Harry Graham; Savillah Fisher; Bessie Dowd; Jimmy Henderson; Lottie, Frank, Roy, Merl and Mamie Canfield; Earle, Belva, Lloyd, and George Munden; Mable and Maggie Hiatt.

In 1888, Lowland had a three-month term of school beginning in April and lasting through May and June. These pupils attended school in 1888-89: Maggie and Sophia Graham; Rosy, Bertha, and Ruth Shuffler; Maude and Oliver Tarvin; Charley Yost; Effie, Grace, Mirt, Luther, Lavon, and Rena Pressnall; Mary and DeLos Fowler; Charley and Lizzie Davenport; and Jimmy Pack. The ages ranged from six to sixteen years. A.W. Dowd was the instructor.

In 1889-90 Lowland had thirty-five students. Emma Clark taught these subjects in 1908 with seventeen

students in school: Reading, Orthography, Arithmetic, or Numbers, Geography, History, Grammar or Language, Physiology, Writing, Civil Gov't., Kansas History, and Algebra.

Undoubtedly Lowland received its name because of its location in a hollow with hills all around. The Burlington Railroad land fill was an added protection against cold, wintry winds and it supplied the fourth side of the higher rim around the building. During one term Lowland gave a program and held a box supper from which they used the money thus secured to buy a writing course. Pupils sent in sheets of their writing which the company graded. Years later several of these students secured Palmer Penmanship Certificates with very little difficulty.

Many Christmas programs, last day picnic dinners, Halloween and other parties were held here. Lowlanders recall skating on Rosecreek during the winter, and various couples of children carrying buckets of drinking water from Boyd's spring.

By courtesy of Miss Emma Klaumann, we have some history of pupils in 1906 when her brother, Charley Klaumann taught there. The Board members were: T.O. Fisher, director; E.E. Hiatt, clerk; and P.E. Canfield, treasurer. The County Superintendent was L.W. Nutter. They paid Mr. Klaumann \$47.50 a month for teaching.

The pupils were: Merle Canfield, Roy Canfield, Frank Canfield, Allie Canfield, Frank Davenport, Clay Davenport, James Davenport, Mamie Davenport, Arthur Davenport, Robert Davenport, Ruth Davenport, Nora Johnson, Mary Ann Johnson, Katie Johnson, Lula Brown, George Brown, Lloyd Brown, James Brown, Willie Brown, Roy Craig, Nellie Craig, and Alice Crieg.

During one term a couple of community meetings were held. The first meeting was held Oct. 15, 1920. Parents and children met at the school house that evening and everyone able to spell at all engaged in an old fashioned spelling-bee. Alice Pressnall won. At this meeting the patrons and teacher decided to try fixing one hot dish each school day to supplement our cold lunches. Quite often we ate partially frozen lunches during the winter if the hall door had been carelessly left open and the temperature was quite low. Older girls prepared the hot dish and the younger students took turns, rather grudgingly, to wash the dishes after lunch at noon. On Nov. 12, 1920 the second meeting was held at which time contests, relay races, and other indoor games were played. The older folk visited and enjoyed watching. Refreshments were served.



Bessie Blakesley taught District 115 in 1911-12 with these 16 pupils: Manila West, Mable Thomas, Earl

Thomas, Lottie Canfield, Ardis Canfield, Ray West, Mary Graham, Cecil Boyd, Lola Hiatt, Roy Johnson, Leona Graam, Lurn Hiatt, Wesley West, Allen Johnson, George Boyd and Marie Johnson.



At the Burlington Overpass in 1915-16, while Nellie Anderson was the teacher, are these pupils: Cecil Boyd, Mary Graham, Ardis Canfield, Lola Hiatt, Ruby Fisher, Lurn Hiatt, George Boyd, Leona Graham, Willie Fisher, May Spicer, Mabel Fisher, Frank Boyd and Harvey Fisher.



Miss Anderson's eighth grade class of graduates in 1916 was: Cecil Boyd, Mary Graham, Lola Hiatt and Ardis Canfield.



1928-1929—Top L to R— Dell Vizner; Velma Craig; Lena Pointer; Teacher—Pearl Milner; Willard Gillespie;

Adrian Dake; Leoan Pointer; Martha Dake; Verna Craig. Lower row: Elwin Clark; Isabelle Gillespie; Kenneth Dake; Lela Dugger; Dale Clark. Dell Vizner Rytch loaned us this picture.



These were students at Lowland School in 1923-4 when Opal Ward was the teacher. (right) She shared the picture. In the picture at the left, Emma Powers was the

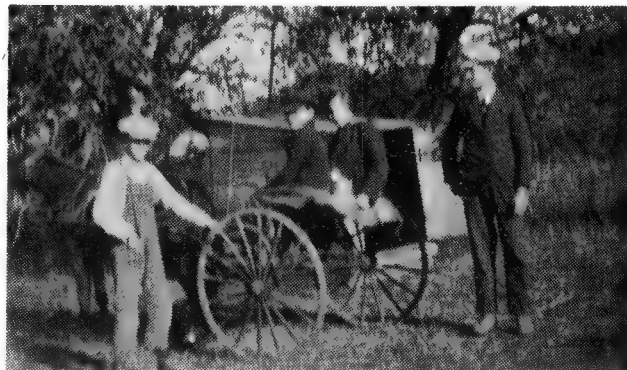


teacher of these four eighth-grade graduates in 1931-32. left to right: Elwin Clark was valedictorian of Republic County graduates in May 1932. The other graduates from Lowland were Lela Dugger, Martha Dake and Kenneth Vaughn.

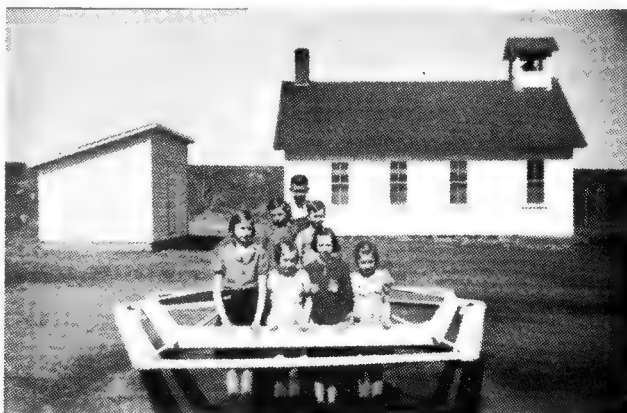


Children at Lowland always welcomed the little diversion of the passing of the Burlington train each day,

if for no other reason than to count the cars. One day Lola Hiatt had just finished counting 106 when her teacher asked her to go to the blackboard and record the number she had for all the rest to see! Courtesy of Lola Fry.



A pony and cart were the dream come true of many children. Lola and Larn Hiatt, Cecil and George Boyd are seen in this picture...a novel way to get to school and save some shoe leather! Courtesy of Lola Fry.



Another pastime at Lowland School was the merry-go-round. Many schools purchased one in the period after the Great Depression, when money became more common! Lowlands School enrollment fell over the years as it did in many rural schools.

The last year of school in Lowland was 1953-54. The school board was Hazen Kelly, Hazel Dejmal and Wesley Coonrod. Esther Coonrod was the teacher and the students going to school this last year are shown in the following picture.

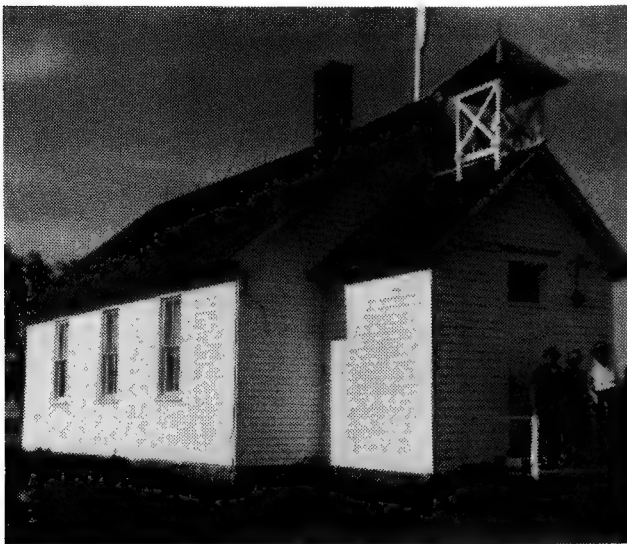




Woody Kelly on the horse, Don Coonrod holding "Babe" and from L. to R. Frances Kelly, Dorothy Dejmal and Loris Coonrod sitting on the roadside bank. Later the school was disorganized.

#### DISTRICT 116—ROSE CREEK CENTER SCHOOL

Mrs. Helen Saip-Daniels of Granada Hills, Calif. writes to say that Rose Creek School meant so much to the Saip children. Her parents moved in 1899 or 1900 to their home one-half mile south of the school. She noted that in Savage's History of Republic County (1901), he told that the first school in Rose Creek Township was a 3-month subscription school taught by Myra Dooley in a log cabin with a dirt roof. This had previously been occupied as a residence.



In the picture of Rose Creek School (3 miles north of Munden) are Elsie and Will Saip, and Helen Saip-Daniels. While they were on a trip to Kansas in 1955 they stopped and took this picture. The next trip- the schoolhouse was gone. Her two younger brothers and a sister-in-law graduated from eighth grade while she was the teacher in 1915-16.

In 1884 Rose Creek School was located about 1½ miles north of Munden and was called District 46. By 1904 it had been moved three miles north of Munden and named Rose Creek Center, undoubtedly, because it was now at the center of Rose Creek Township.

In 1894 the Republic County Directory lists the school board as P.A. Sears of Munden, A. Steenblock and W.A. Coulter both of Hubbell, Nebraska. The teacher was Maggie Graham, also of Hubbell.

Like several other schools over the county, this school was not organized until June 28, 1887 although there had been schools serving the area for a few years previous to organization. When District 46 apparently disorganized at this time, half of the land went to Rose Creek Center and half to Munden. The schoolhouse was located in the SW corner of Section 15, said to be the highest elevation in the Township.

In 1902 when Miss Ruby Davis taught the school, the Board members were: W.D. Coulter, J.B. Rickard, and

W.R. Robins. Francis B.H. Dooley was the eighth grade graduate. We note that the clerk's records were kept for quite a number of years by Mrs. Mary Clark. Mr. Charlie Palacek served as director for twelve years. From the available records we find this information:

Miss Ruby Davis	1902-03
Sadie Bobenhouse	1906-07 \$40.00 per month
Helen Saip	1915-16 \$52.50
Lillian Hazen	1911-12 \$50.00
Amy Davis	1912-13 \$50.00
(She was not paid until the end of 4 months so she received \$1.65 interest in December and at the end of the next 4 mo., \$2.00 interest was paid.)	
(No more records until 1921)	
Vincent Greuter	1921-22 \$70.00
Vincent Greuter	1922-23 \$75.00
Flossie Martin	1923-24 \$70.00
Doris Thompson	1924-25 \$70.00
Faye Ward	1925-26 \$82.50
Hazel McNeil	1926-27 \$90.00
Hazel Smith	1927-30 \$90.00



This was the first 3-year teaching period for one teacher. She loaned this picture of the graduating class in 1928. They are: Joe Marsicek, Ernest Sterba, Eddie Palecek and Charles Homolka. Courtesy of Mrs. Hazel Dejmal.

Mollie Vesely	1930-31 \$75.00
The Great Depression caused salaries to slump.	
Dorothy Mitchell	1931-32 \$85.00
Helen Doupnik	1932-33 \$65.00
Hugh Moore	1933-34 \$50.00
Hugh Moore	1934-35 \$55.00
Virginia Willis	1935-36 \$50.00
Virginia Willis	1936-37 \$60.00



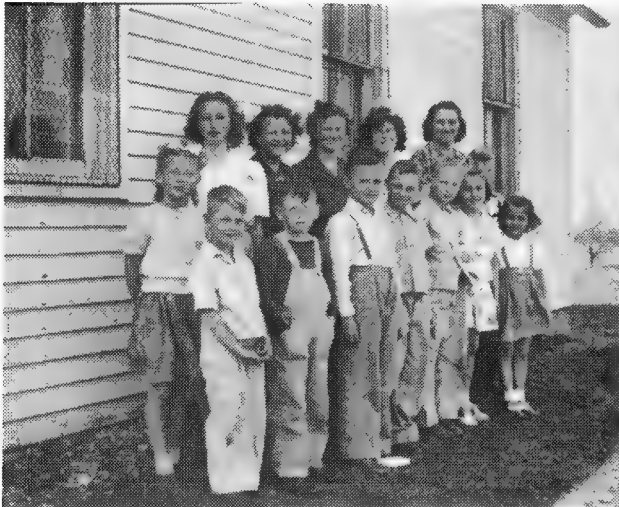
The last year Virginia Willis taught Rose Creek, these were her pupils: Back row- Helene Clark, Marjorie

Carpenter, Vera Carpenter, Meredith Clark, Harold Pack, Dale Craig, Doyle Pack. Front row- Betty BeLoyde, Helen Divin, Evelyn BeLoyde, Marcella Sterba and Rosalie Sterba.

Lucille Moravek	1937-38 \$58.50
Lucille Moravek	1938-41 \$70.00

This was the first four-year teaching period.

Dorothy Wallin	1941-42 \$62.50
Marcella Sterba	1942-43 \$60.00
Mrs. Hazel Mulch	1943-44 \$100.00
Mrs. Hazel Mulch	1944-45 \$125.00
Mary Sterba	1945-46 \$150.00



Mrs. Mulch has let us use this picture taken by the Rose Creek Center School in 1943-45 with thirteen pupils posing by the side of the schoolhouse: Back row: Mona Sellars, Evelyn Popelka, Ruth Shepek, Evelyn Palecek, Norma Pack, the teacher Mrs. Mulch, and Donald Pack. Front row: Paul Pack, Larry Stephens, Adolph Rytych, Ray Pack, Donald Palecek, Jean Walta, and Alice Shepek.



Last day of school 1954 Rose Creek Center District 116. Back row, left to right. Teacher, Mrs. Helen Trzicky, Joan Walta, Phyllis Vizner, Donnie Rytych, Frank Palecek, Jr. Front row: Dick Trzicky, Sharon Rytych, Ray Vizner, Lee Vizner, Brian Palecek, Lynn Canning, Allan Palecek, Larry Shulda.

In the early days the school had a big wood and coal-burning stove, a stone water-cooler, and was lighted by gas lamps.

There were sometimes thirty-six children in eight grades taught by one teacher who was also the janitor. The larger boys in school were responsible for carrying in coal and water from the well. Fire was not kept over night and the ink often froze in the children's desks.



Inside, 1955. Teacher: Mrs. Helen Trzicky. First row on left: Allan Palecek, Brian Palecek. Second row: Ray Vizner, Larry Shulda, Phyllis Vizner. Third row: Sharon Rytych, Lynn Canning, Joan Walta. Fourth row: Patricia Palecek, Lee Vizner, Dick Trzicky.

We have given our readers views of interiors of schools 80 to 100 years ago and for the purpose of historical reference we want to use this one after Rose Creek had, like many schools, been connected to the Rural Electric Authority (REA). Note the outlet and cord by the rear door. Mrs. Trzicky could use the record player, radio, fans on hot days in the fall, etc. Many schools put in lunch facilities, running water, and a rapid change took place. It might be called the "Electric Era of the 1950's" as opposed to the "Gas Lamp 1920's" or the "Bracket Kerosene Lamps of the 1880's". None of these had the impact upon educational change that electricity brought because of the many possibilities for its use. We are grateful to LaVerne Palecek for 1950's pictures.

This school was used as a regular voting place by the voters of Rose Creek Township until it was disorganized. It served as the gathering place for many happy activities in addition to its serving as an educational facility. Besides the regular plays and parties, it often sponsored box suppers and ice cream socials. Debates were often held and timely topics discussed.

Back row, left to right. LaVerne Palecek (face only),

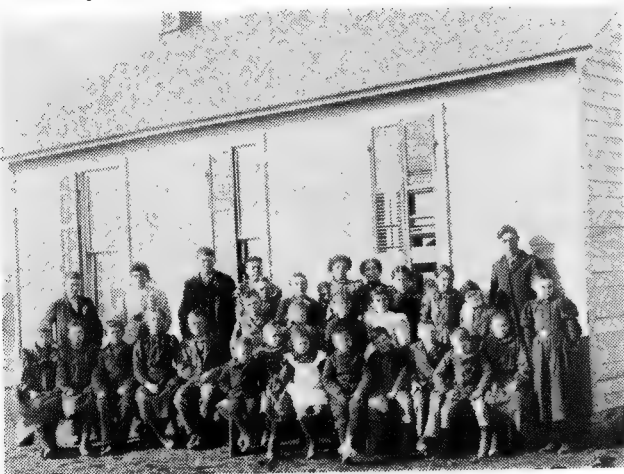


Artis Canning, Elsie Popelka, Ladimer Walta (top of head), Ann Shulda (part of face), Phyllis Vizner pupil, Lydia Vizner, Unknown (face only), Joan Walta pupil, Leona Kadlec, Frank Kadlec, Jr. pupil, Donald Rytych pupil, Mrs. Bill Rytych, Shirley Walta (at end). Front row, children-pupils; Brian Palacek, Allan Palacek, Patricia Palecek, Lee Vizner, Ray Vizner, Lynn Canning, Larry Shulda, Sharon Rytych, Unknown, little girl turned away. School picnic 1954, Mrs. Helen Trzicky, teacher.

School was held until 1955 when more stringent State laws and too few pupils forced it to close. The building was bought by Charle Vizner who uses it as a granary. The District 116 annexed to Munden.

#### DISTRICT 117—LONE TREE

Lone Tree School District 117 was formed August 27, 1887, and the school was located in the NE corner of Section 7 in Lincoln Township which is 4½ miles east of Norway and 2 north.



Leslie Blackwood of Talmo was one of the early teachers. Mrs. Ada Logan-Henrickson tells us that the year was about 1896-97 when she attended this school and he was her teacher. She has named the pupils in school that year as nearly as she can recall: Back row: left to right - Ralph Nickol, Emma Hamil, Margie Carpenter, Hal Carpenter, Tracy Carpenter, Zan Carpenter, Mary Rarick, Ethel Clickenbeard, Erma Raughn, Beryl Clickenbeard, and the teacher Mr. Blackwood. Middle row: Willie Rogers, Nellie Logan, Newt Rarick, Eva Hamil. Front row: Pearl Rarick, Agnes Clinkenbeard, Walter Rarick, Ada Woodward, Will Nichol, Allen Logan, Ada Logan, Beryl Clickenbeard, Bennie Clinkenbeard, Lester Hamil, Harley Christie, John Nichol, a Vaughn girl and Vera Nichol. (Picture courtesy of Ada Henrickson.

School was held in 1890 for only four months. Some other teachers between 1892-96 were: T.S. Walter, Pricie Maxwell, Celia Ainsworth and Adela Humphrey who taught terms of school varying in length from 3 months to 5½ months.

The texts they used were: Rayes Arithmetic, McGuffey's Readers, and Speller, Eclectic Physiology and Hygiene and Barnes United States Hisotry.

Picture at Lone Tree taken about 1910. Courtesy of B. L. Lash. Back row: Joe Hall, Diane Carpenter, Lester Hamel, Bernie Lash, Edna Carpenter, teacher Adeline



Fleming; Ralph Lash, Walter Bowling and Lyle Lash. Front Row: Claude Adams, Willie Hadachek, Glenn Kelly, Hazel Adams, Archie Carpenter, Lena Simmons, Leslie Bushby, Toliver Bushby.

During the years 1913 to 1944 these teachers taught in the Lone Tree District: Mabel Young, Carrie Sanford, Josie Robison, Grace Goppert, Minta Walter, Orpha Bowersox, Gust Danielson, Berniece Roe, Beatrice Wells, Sarah Gile, Mildred Revell, Thressa Kelly, Sarah Wright, Myron Kellogg, Blanche Ames, Helen Oliver, Doris Sanford, Naomi Hammer.

At the turn of the century (1900-01) B.L. Lash has a school souvenir from Lone Tree School with Vila Bullen the teacher and the Board members: Grant Christie clerk, C.N. Lash director and P.S. Carpenter the treasurer. There were 39 on the pupil list: Ethel Hedrick, Dianna Carpenter, Elmer Nichol, Altha Hulse, Margie Carpenter, Walter Rarick, Margie Hubbard, George Hulsie, Mary Rarick, Ralph Nichol, Emma Hammil, Edgar Orr, James Carpenter, Bud Orr, Vera Nichol, Newton Rarick, Willie Nichol, Harley Chrisite, Eva Hammil, Charlie Rarick, Vernie Orr, Ada Logan, Grace Hulse, Nellie Logan, Murten Hubbard, Arthur Rarick, Arthur Hulse, John Nichol, Laura Wesbrook, Jacob Zufall, Glenn Lash, Cecil Carpenter, Johnnie Hubbard, Ellen Doctor, Allen Logan, Lulu Blanchard, Ralph Lash.

Instead of the usual decorations on the outside with the teacher's picture, on this souvenir is Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's picture and on the pages inside are his poems: The Arrow and the Song, The Builders, A Psalm of Life, The Ship of State, The Day Is Done and The Rainy Day. What an inspiration to these students to carry with them!

On April 9, 1948, the school board consisting of Arnie Wells, director; George Barleen, clerk; and B. L. Lash, treasurer, was empowered to close school; to arrange with the board in another district, to sign the legal agreements for the payment of tuitions to the receiving district, and to arrange to pay monthly whatever is fair and reasonable for transportation costs.

Delmar Pracht bought the building to use as a residence in Belleville.

Mr. Jones says, "In the late 1940's Highland School moved 1 mile east to the Rydal Road when it consolidated with Lone Tree Dist. 117."

#### DISTRICT 117—WITHOUT A NAME

The little school district that had no chance to grow up or even have a name. It was formed August 27, 1887,



containing  $3\frac{3}{4}$  sections. These sections were as follows; "beginning at the northwest corner of section 25 of T-2S, R-1W, west of the 6th P.M. and extending W  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile, thence S  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mile, thence E  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles, thence N  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to the place of beginning". This area was in the southeast corner of Farmington Township and in the upper part in Richland Township in the northeast corner.

This "infant" school district only "lived" a little under six months. Its boundaries as above were changed on January 14, 1888. Notice of this change, being all added to District No. 4 to its west, was on Jan. 24, 1888. This change was perfected on February 10, 1888 and the School District No. 117 was discontinued at that date. This possibly is the shortest "life" of any school district in Republic County.

During this life span of No. 117, it is shared with Lone Tree School in Lincoln Township which also was given the distinction as School District No. 117. It was established on December 17, 1887. So for nearly two months there were two District No. 117's in Republic County. This district 117 never had a chance to build its own school building. During its brief "life" its children went to Haworth No. 4.

#### DISTRICT 118—NARKA GRADE SCHOOL

The first school building in Narka was built on the southeast corner of block 12 which later became the residence of Hamiltons, Ernest Wells, then Bill Werners, and at present Andy Singletons.

In the book "History of Republic County" by I. O. Savage under churches: Narka M. E. Church (Methodist)

The Narka M. E. Church was organized in the District schoolhouse in 1881 with 12 members.

The schoolhouse was built by or before 1888. B. T. Bullen, county superintendent, came to Narka June 19, 1888 to consider application of District 118 which started from the northwest corner of Section 16 and extended  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles east, thence south 2 miles, thence west  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles, thence north 1 mile, back to the place of beginning Township 1 Range 1 west - this later became known as the Narka Grade School. An article in the Belleville Telescope of December 1888 states a donation supper was held in the new beautiful school building and \$24 was taken in. This building had two classrooms with four grades in each room. In 1905 a ninth grade was taught above a store where the Mason Lodge is today.

Lester Dettman recalls his first grade teacher was Rose Kuchera Ward in 1904-1905. His second grade teacher was Aaron Crum. During this year he and a classmate got into mischief. The teacher sent out to get a switch. They got a good one. The other boy got the lickin' and there was only the stub left for Les's turn and he got a good one.

Some residents of Narka who attended this school are: Mrs. Alice Feil, Mrs. May Feil, Mrs. Laura Keene, Mrs. Olive Bouska, Mr. Lester Dettman.

School was held in this building until 1905. High school was held in the top floor until 1923 when the high school building was built. This building was sold and the lumber was used to build two houses, which are today occupied by Lilas Hallowell, and Joe and Lottie Morton.

Narka grade school, probably the year in 1908 by side of the new 1906 building. Back row, left to right: Gertrude

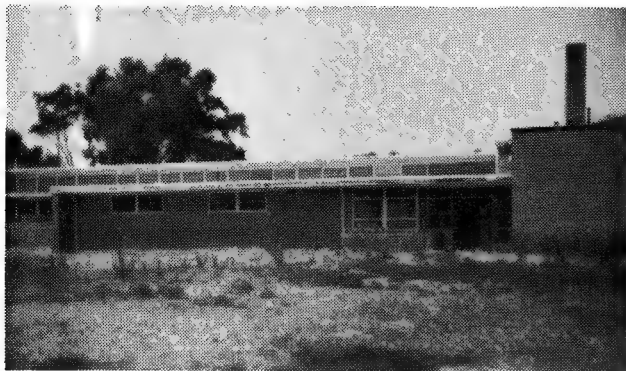


Nutter, teacher; Clara Dettman, Clyde Dovel, Leigh Roy Feil, Esther Ward, George Sorick, Jim Seifert, Irene McCurdy, Leona Slough, Christina Holechek, Anna Chaloupka. Middle row, left to right: Irma McCall, Pansy Peters, Ruth Crane, Marie Ferris, Beatrice Kobes, Wanda West, Alma Kinney. Front row, left to right: Roy McCall, Albert Brabec, Rudy Brabec, Rudolph Kobes, J. R. Dettman, Roy Tatman, Jim Sorick, Leroy Short. (Picture is courtesy of Rudy and Al Brabec)

For the term of 1906 a new building had been built which was located in the lower addition in the east part of town.

This school opened with eight grades and three teachers. In 1907 the ninth grade was added and in 1910 the tenth grade was added. In 1914 the district voted to put in the 11th and 12th grades. It was accredited the same year by the State Board of Education. A new rural high school was built in 1923 located in The Breneman Addition, in the south part of town. School was held here until 1961. A new grade school building was built and school was held in it from 1951 to 1971. School buses were purchased in 1959. Grades 7 & 8 were transported to school beginning with the school year of 1968, and the Kindergarten in 1970, grades 1 through 6 in 1971, Narka, Agenda, and Cuba consolidated and became Hillcrest District 455.

Some of the graduates of the Narka high school since it was accredited are: 1916: Inez Wills, Alchie Hutcherson, Laura Hudson. 1917: Pansy Peters. 1918: Frank Shoemaker, Charlie Shoemaker, Wanda West, Mildred



Thomas; 1919, Rosa Lovei, Hattie Hutcherson, Alfred Beyer. The principals and assistants since 1915 have been as follows: Roy Hunt, principal; Mrs. Roy Hunt, assistant; except during the last three months when Mr. O. W. Peterson substituted as principal and Miss Creighton as assistant.

1917-1918: Mrs. James F. Bursch, principal; Mr. Cosand with Mr. Emil Larson substituting the last three months.

1919-1920: Mr. E. E. Zavodsky, principal; Miss Alice Benson, asst.

It has ever been the aim of the teachers and the pupils to keep the high school work up to the highest standard, and in this way they have been ably seconded by the board and patrons, and as the standards are raised to higher and higher levels, we are determined that they shall be closely followed and strongly supported by the untiring efforts of Narka high school.

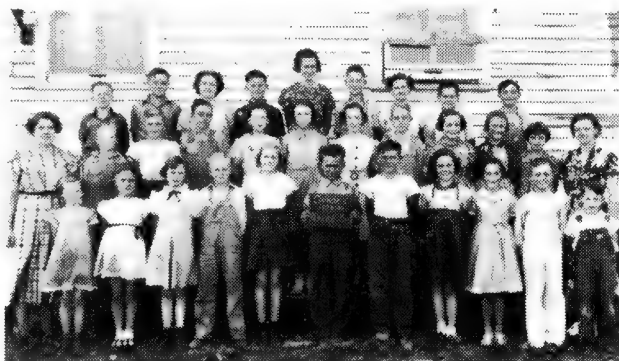


1930-1931, Narka Grade School. Back row, left to right: Leonard Shara, Fred Kosek, Nellie Anderson, teacher; Glen Lytle, Cleo Hoover, Linn Dalrump, principal; Vernon "Happy" Whitney, Bessie May Joy, Irene Childs, teacher; Lilas Nemec, Wanda Cerny. Next row: 1 to r: Eleanor Munrow, Kathryn Brabec, Lottie Kunc, Audrey Bouska, Nellie Hogle, Laura Chaloupka, Elizabeth Lytle, Maxine Feil, Katherine Puckett, Next row: 1 to r: Jay Dean Koontz, Paul Higgs, Elmer Brabec, Alfred Lee Moore, Max Feil, John Caw, Jr. Next row: 1 to r: Kenneth Whitney, Donnie Kosek, Delbert Holan, Victor Shulda, Charlie Hoover, Jr. (Les) Dettelman, Lowell Baskin, Hubert Brabec, George Rocky, Glen Chaloupka, Randall Butterbaugh. Front row: 1 to r: Darwin Hoover, Beryl Baskin, James Caw, Dale Shocks, Billy Munroe, Glennie Kosek, Wesley Hogle, Jr. Beason, Wendell Flock.

Narka Grade School, middle room, 1931-1932: Back row, left to right: Irene Childs, teacher; Bessie May Joy, Wanda Cerny, Devona Lahodny, Ruth Alvord, Delphine



Lahodney, Maxine Feil, Kenneth Whitney, Max Feil, Lee Moore, Darwin Hoover. Front row, left to right: Donnie Kosek, Glen Lytle, Katherine Puckett, Elizabeth Lytle, Harry Alvord, Victor Shulda.



Miss Mary Anthony taught Narka Grades 5-8 in 1935-39. Miss Flora Smith taught the first four grades. Miss Anthony was able to identify: Back row, left to right: Leonard Hubka, Ray Webber, Betty Whitney, Virgil Brabec, Helen Chaloupka, Kenneth Hallechek, a girl, a boy, and Bobby Wills. In the middle row: Gary Hess, Cecil Beauchamp, Mae Woods, a girl, Wilma Thomas, Joyce Ferris, Marie Thomas, Wanda Chaloupka, a girl. In the front row were: Melvin Ferris, a girl, Earl Brabec and the others she did not remember since she did not have them in her room.

Among recent pupils (1970-1971) at Narka are: Primary Room, Mrs. Esther Coonrod, teacher; First Grade, David Holloway, Loren Head, Brenda Palecek, Tammy Palecek; Second Grade, Andy Chermak, Pamela Holly; Third Grade, Steve Ferris, Lonnie Head, Debbie Koss, Keith Novak, Alan Woodside; Intermediate Room, Mrs. Dorothy Novotny, teacher; Fourth grade, Edwin Brokesh, Diane Holloway, Debbie Sheridan, Joan Tamerius; Fifth Grade, Charles Novak, Frank Shoemaker; Sixth Grade, Sherry Cossaart, Patti Koss, Erin Mansfield.

#### DISTRICT 119 — ISLAND SCHOOL

Island School District 119 was located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 11 in Farmington Township, four miles and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of Narka. It is believed that the name "Island" originated from the fact that this location was almost surrounded by two creeks as they nearly merged north of the school location; then they spread out forming a circular enclosure and again came together to form a

single stream south of the schoolhouse. There was always danger of high water. During one storm, Mr. Wranosky, who lived to the west, came and warned the teacher, Miss Eliza Wolff that they should move off the island quickly because both bridges had water over them! They just barely crossed in time - the water was getting so high.



This picture was shared with us by Mrs. Eliza Harroun of Belleville. It was taken in the term of 1903-04. C. W. Rundus was the teacher and J. I. Wolff, director; C. F. Strnad, clerk; and F. H. Wranosky, treasurer. The pupils identified as nearly as possible; are: Front row: Joe Chopp, Ernest Kouba, Ed Wranosky, Fred Wranosky, Fred Jensik (waving his hat), Mamie Kouba and Charity Jensik. Middle row: Elsie Kouba, unknown, unknown, Lottie Wranosky, Mollie Kuchera, Josie Pavlik Frances Chopp and Ella Kuchera. Back row: Eliza A. Wolff, Adelaid Jensik, Alma Wranosky, Ollie Wranosky, Will Chopp, Frank Chopp, Eddie Chopp.

This district was organized September 24, 1889. Preliminary notices were posted September 30 telling of

the first district meeting on October 11 and another on October 22, 1889. Among the early organizers and patrons of this district were the following families: J. I. Wolff's, Doval's, Koontz's and Strnad's.

The first record of a teacher and board members for this square schoolhouse was found in a 1894-95 Directory where it was stated that Miss Emma Hoffman was the teacher and Henry Justice, J. C. Jensik and J. I. Wolff were the board members.

On the same grounds with Island School was this Island Hall built in 1901-02 by the Z.C.B.J. Lodge No. 125. In just three years (1905) they paid off the mortgage. They made money by having dances, giving plays and entertainments. The school also held their school programs in the hall. Sometime about 1940 the hall was sold and torn down by Martin Waltz to build a barn on his farm. It still stands on the farm now owned by John and Gladys Shorney.

In 1904-05 Sylvia Anderson taught Island School and J. I. Wolff, C. F. Strnad and D. C. Doval were board members.

Mrs. Eliza Harroun taught here in 1907-08 and again in 1911-12. She and her four sisters were daughters of Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Wolff (Alice Skipton) and all members of this family were teachers. Mrs. Harroun recalls that when she taught Island and Miss Charity Jensik (now residing in Canon City, Colo.) taught Stone or Crescent, as it was called later, they used to walk their pupils to each other's schools and conduct spelling matches. This was probably the beginning of the spelling contests of later years to which all of the schools were entitled to bring their best spellers. In the 1950's, the winner of each of the eight zones over the county went to the County Seat, and the winner there spelled for the State Championship and went to Washington, D.C. to spell in the National Spelling Contest.

One of the most memorable occasions of the school year was the day of the Christmas Program, after which Santa Claus usually came.

In 1910-11 when Emma Rundus (Kadavy) was







teaching Island, this picture was taken showing the children holding their sacks of candy and nuts provided by the teacher for Santa to pass out.

In the front row: Joe Strnad, Stanley Kvasnicka, Marie Strnad (Flaska), Lewis Kvasnicka, Edward Kuchera who shared this picture, Frank Chopp, Caroline Strnad (Mach), and Charles Konop. In the middle row are: Lottie Wranosky (Maston), Mamie Kouba (Huncovsky), William Chopp, Annie Novak, Edward Konop, and Nettie Konop. Back row: Fank Konop, Edward Chopp, Tillie Marsicek (Hirman), Rose Novak Kasper), Blanche Marsicek (Bartel) and Miss Rundus. Standing in the back is Santa Claus (George Strnad).



In 1918-19 Josephine Shara Tuma was the teacher: Front row: Erney Slavik, Dorothy Paulichek Mach, Emma Strnad Winebinger, Albina Strnad Havel. Middle



row: Joe Slavik, Loveta Lavenner, Blazena Kouba Trecek, Leonard Roubinek, Leonard Devore. Back row: Helen Strnad Mach, teacher Miss Shara, Edria Paulichek Brokesh, Caroline Strnad Mach and Elmer Roubinek.

Miss Shara drove a horse and buggy to school and along that three-mile drive picked up Edrie and Dorothy Paulichek. It was a wonderful "One-hoss shay". Pictures courtesy of Dorothy Mach.



Myron Kellogg followed his father's footsteps in the teaching profession several years. Here is a last day picture, April 20, 1926: (loaned by Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Tuma) Back row: Frank Piroutek, Ruth Piroutek Havel, Elizabeth Odgers Overstreet, Anna Piroutek Kauer, Emma Strnad Winbinger. Middle row: Ed Pelesky and Joey Slavik. Front row: Ernest Klima, Ernest Piroutek, Gladys Devore, Evaline Slavik Von Parrack, Gladys Slavik Sklencka, Margaret Odgers.



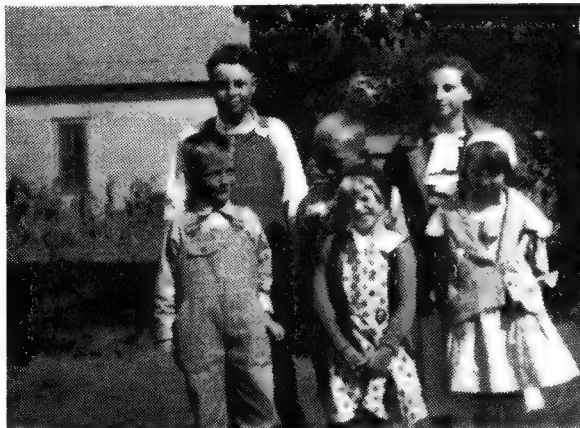
Miss Dorothy Mitchell was teaching here in 1929-30 with a "baker's dozen" in the picture. Note the Island Hall in the background. Front row: Stanley Hess, Avalene Slavik Parrack, Olive Hess, Marjorie Kouba Purdy, Virginia Waltman Coonrod. Back row: Miss Mitchell, Neil Peters, Gladys Slavik Sklenicka, Ernie Piroutek, Ed Pelesky, Gladys Devore, Lena Kouba Sullivan, Ernie Klima and Glenn Hess.

In 1935-36 Miss Pauline Neubauer Trecek had a class of six first graders: Glenn Kuchera, Chester Chopp,



Delbert Chopp, Miss Neubauer, Shirley Ross, Geraldine Klima Hiatt, Emma Jane Devore Gingles.

Below are the other pupils: Front: Delbert, Shirley and Geraldine in the other picture. Adolph Nemec, Chester Chopp and Avalene Slavik Parrack.



While Miss Hynek was the teacher in 1939-40 she had 8 pupils: Front row: Norma Nemec Fisher, Doris Chopp Filipi, Phyllis Chopp, Joyce Marsicek Wreath. Back row: Delbert Chopp, Glenn Kuchera, the teacher Marcella Hynek Knedlik, and Chester Chopp.

The picture below is the last one we have, although school was held another year. In this 1943-44 term were: Back row: Phyllis Chopp Vaupel, the teacher Hazel Roubinek, Joyce Marsicek Wreath, Norma Nemec. Front row: Lorene Slavik Behrens, Marvin Sterba and Mary Ann Chopp Weyh.



Norma Nemec Fisher and Joyce Marsicek Wreath were the last two graduates from Island School. Then there were only Lorene Slavik and Marvin Sterba to attend school there, because Mary Ann Chopp Weyh had changed to Narka School the year before.

For the lack of pupils Island School was disorganized and annexed to Districts 19 and 52 on August 10, 1951. The board members were: Erney Slavik, Edward Pelesky, and Ernest E. Klima.

Fred Herzfeld bought Island schoolhouse and moved it away.

This is the roster of teachers at Island as nearly complete as we can make it:

1894-95 Emma Hoffman  
 1902-03 Reba Hoffman  
 1903-04 C. W. Rundus  
 1904-05 Sylvia Anderson  
 1907-08 Eliza Wolff Harroun  
 1908-09 Florence Freeman  
 1909-11 Emma Rundus  
 1911-12 Eliza Wolff  
 1912-13 Eula Bostik  
 1913-14 L. N. Bouska  
 1914-15 Metta Wolff  
 1915-16 Metta Wolff  
 1916-19 Josephine Shara  
 1919-20 Florence Mitchell  
 1920-21 Charles Thomas  
 1921-23 Thelma Evans Chopp  
 1924-26 Frances Doupnik Lesovsky  
 1926-28 Myron Kellog  
 1928-29 Wade Morey  
 1929-31 Dorothy Mitchell Novotny  
 1931-34 Glen W. Peters  
 1934-35 Lois Douce  
 1935-37 Pauline Neubauer  
 1937-39 Letha Fitch  
 1939-40 Marcella Hynek Knedlik  
 1940-41 Dorothy Bonar Peterson  
 1941-42 Harold Kennedy  
 1942-44 Hazel Roubinek  
 1944-45 Marvel Mae Pavlik who was the last teacher

Some names of other teachers were recalled, but no dates established for Mr. Shepard, H. E. Smith, Joe Kennedy, Ethel Rhine, Beth Jefferson.

## DISTRICT 120—JEFFERSON CENTER SCHOOL

Jefferson Center School District 120 was formed on October 7, 1890. In this picture at the right we note the shuttered windows and appearance of a rather new building. The picture is about 1900 or earlier according to Mollie (Kaufman) Lull who submitted the picture. E. F. Stepanek, Helen Makalous, and Betty Makalous were not able to tell us who the teacher or the pupils were. It is believed that the schoolhouse was built within a year or two of the school board meeting on October 29, 1890. It was located in the NE corner of Sec. 16 in Jefferson Township. This is four miles west of Cuba.



There is no record of who was elected to the board at the Oct. 29th school meeting, but possibly at this meeting the name of the school was selected. Jefferson Center School came from the township and also because the building site was located near the center of the township and also near the center of the district. The County Superintendent, B. T. Bullen, signed the record of the school boundaries on October 29th or soon thereafter.

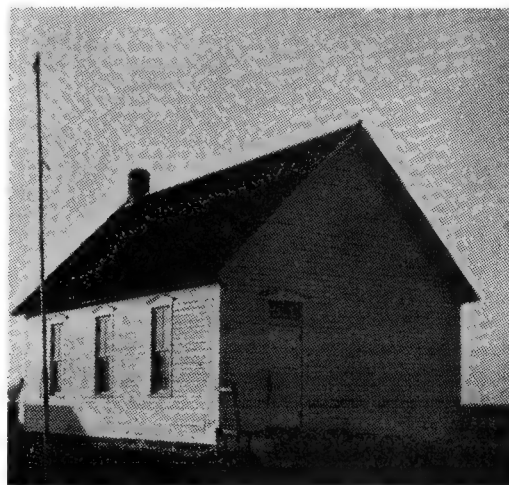
S. T. Collins was the homesteader of this land and received his patent for his claim on June 17, 1903. Normally, one settled and lived on the land five years to get a patent, but on the 18th of April, 1891 S.T. Collins and his wife M. A. Collins deeded a tract of land 209 ft. square to Dist. 120 for the sum of \$50.00. This warranty deed further stated that the land was to revert back to the grantor, if the land was no longer used for school purposes. This site is recorded as the NE corner of the NE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 16. This was in accordance with the school district law of February 22, 1864; an act of the Legislature of the State of Kansas "to provide for the sale of school lands".

On April 7, 1905, Mollie Lull's picture shows Mr. E. E. Zavodsky was the teacher. The identification of the pupils in the picture is unknown, but the teacher's Souvenir lists for 1904-05 these names: Wrennie Hicks, Blanche Horak, Rosie Havel, Lottie Horak, Anna Havel, Ollie Haniel, Katie Horak, Richard Houdek, Bedford Houdek, Johnnie Hicks, Alfred Havel, George Houdek, Louis Hostinsky, Elmer L. Gordon, Curtis T. Collins, Halph E. Harris, R. Elza Gordon, Blanche Barton, Emma Havel, Roy E. Goppert, Caro M. Goppert, Anna L. Hostinsky, Anna



Horak, Willie Hood, Jerry Havel, Ernest J. Goppert, Percy Collins and Minnie Gordon. The shutters have been removed from the windows.

The members of the board were: P. L. Gordon, A. P. Goppert, H. H. Collins, clerk; Wm. Houdek, treasurer; and E. E. Baird was Supt. of Schools for Republic County. Mr. Zavodsky was hired for a seven-month term at \$45 per month. Minnie Gordon was a graduate that year.



The earliest directory available (1894-95) gave us the name of the first teacher, Julia Larson, who taught six months at \$30 a month. Claude A. Carr was the only graduate.

1904-05	E. E. Zavodsky	7 months	\$45.00
1905-06	Verna Staples	7 months	\$40.00
1906-07	Verna Staples		
1907-08	Joseph Hostinsky	8 months	\$45.00
1908-09	Iva Johnson	8 months	\$48.00
1909-10	Verna Graham	4 months	\$45.00
	Bertha McDonald	3 months	\$50.00
1910-11	Chas. V. Zavodsky	8 months	\$60.00
1911-12	Lillian Dyer	8 months	\$52.50
1912-13	Bessie McNealy taught		
1913-14	Lulu Williams		
1914-15	Lulu Williams		
1915-16	Lulu Williams		
1916-17	Minnie Williams		
1917-18	Frank Spurney		



Board members, S. A. Baxa, Edgar Collins, Geo. Blazek. N. Collins, Rudolph Havel, Florence Goppert, Ludvik Goppert, Bennie Peterka, Eddie Peterka, Louisa Havel, Eddie Houdek, Adolph Havel, Clarence Goppert, Margaret Nelson, Julia Havel, Elsie Houdek, Bessie Houdek, Victor Havel, Willia Houdek, Silva Houdek.

1918-19 Verna Boggs

1919-20 Edythe Lowell

1920-21 Joseph Lovci

1921-22 Joseph Lovci

1912-13 Bessie McNealy taught these pupils: Lumer Novotny, Elsie Houdek, Margaret Nelson, Bessie Houdek, Rudolph Novotny, Arnold Novotny, Emma Peterka, Alma Novotny, Willie Houdek, Adolph Havel, Lenora Houdek, Richard Houdek, Mollie Havel, Anna Peterka, Libbie Havel, Julia Havel and Henry Havel.



Ann Benyshek loaned this picture of Mr. Lovci and pupils: Bessie Houdek, Adolph Havel, Chas. Sterba, Ben Peterka, Anna Celoud, Elsie Houdek, Rudolph Havel, Louise Havel, Ed Houdek, Lorene Havel, Louisa Baxa, Ed Peterka, Vic Havel, Helen Houdek, Mary Havel and Frances Havel.

1923-24 Ruth Anthony

1924-25 Ruth Anthony

1925-26 Frances Baxa

1926-27 Frances Baxa

1927-28 Ruth Anthony



1928-29 Reba Hugos

1929-30 Reba Hugos

1930-31 Leona James

1931-32 Virgie Goodger While Miss Goodger taught here the board members were: Wm. Vanous, Alfred Havel and S.A. Baxa. Her pupils were: Gaye Vanous, Virgil Havel, Evelyn Krotz, Leon Havel, Blanche Havel, Viola Havel, Harriet Krotz, Iola Gayle Vanous, Stanley Baxa, Jr., Clifford Havel, Olive Koukol, Eleanora Baxa and Maxine Havel.

1932-33 Aloisia Baxa

1933-34 Aloisia Baxa

1934-35 Marie Drapel

1935-36 Marie Drapel



Mrs. Marie Klima has loaned this picture of her school. Back row: Alice Mae Havel, Donald Koukol, Dale Dean Vanous. Middle row: Evelyn Krotz, Alfred Havel, jr., Gaye Vanous, Virgil Havel, Leon Havel. Front—Maxine Havel and Blanche Havel. Not in the picture were: Irene Baxa, Eugene Baxa and Clifford Havel.

1936-37 Frances Kovarik

1937-38 Frances Kovarik

While Miss Kovarek taught Dist. 120 in 1937-38 her board members were: Jerry Koukol, Joe Krotz and Alfred Havel. The pupils were: Marcella Havel, Donald Krotz, Evelyn Koukol, Alice Mae Havel, Dale Dean Vanous, Maxine Havel, Alfred Havel, Jr., Donald Koukol, Virgil Havel and Gaye Vanous.

1938-39 Frances Kovarik

1939-40 Roberta Fraser

1940-41 Francis Splichal

1941-42 Marietta Sanford

1942-43 Marietta Sanford

1943-44 Blanche Havel

1944-45 Blanche Havel

1945-46 Blanche Havel

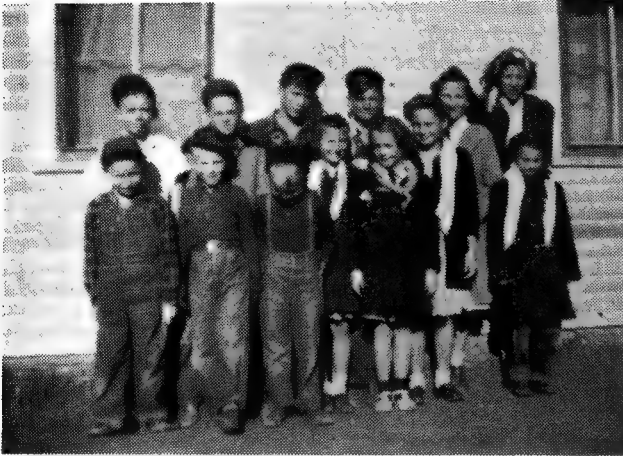
1946-47 Hazel Mulch

1947-48 Hazel Mulch

1948-49 Hazel Mulch

1949-50 Gloria Lawson

1950-51 Gloria Lawson  
 1951-52 Ruth Canning  
 1952-53 Sara Proft  
 1953-54 Sara Proft  
 1954-55 Sara Proft  
 1955-56 Sara Proft  
 1956-57 Phyllis Havel



Mrs. Mulch has loaned us this picture of her pupils in 1947-48. Back row, left to right: Gary Trecek, Gerald Blazek, Dwight Potter, Elaine Krob, Mrs. Mulch and a girl. Front row: Jimmy Blazek, Harold Blazek, Loren Blazek, Bonnie Krob, Glennis Beneda, Marilyn Blazek and Kay Minihan. The board members were: Will Krob, Frank Blazek and Joe Blazek.

In Mrs. Sara Proft's first year at Jefferson Center her board members were: Ben Barnett, F. J. Blazek and Joseph E. Blazek. The pupils were: Ben Eugene Barnett, Robert Blazek, Marilyn Havel, Lonnie Trecek, Lonnie Beneda, Linda Trecek, Glennis Beneda, Loren Blazek, Homer Boutz, James Blazek and Donald Paul Milner.

Mrs. Phyllis Havel holds the distinction of being the last teacher to teach Jefferson Center School. Chas. Trecek had replaced F. J. Blazek on the previous board. Only six pupils attended in 1956-57: Linda Trecek Rist, Marlon Havel, Lonnie Beneda, Gene Barnett, Bobby Blazek and Erwin Havel.

A special meeting was held April 22, 1960 to disorganize and to annex the entire territory of Jefferson Center to Consolidated Dist. 226 McCune and to Cuba, Dist. 111. The sale was held on Oct. 19, 1960 and the schoolhouse sold for \$170. It was bought by E. J. Beneda and is being used for storage.

#### CUBA REFUGEES TO CUBA, KANSAS.

On November 26, 1965 a group of Cuban teachers and librarians gathered at Cuba, Kansas for a reunion. This reunion and program was held in the new high school building.

Fidel Castro had won his fighting in the Island of Cuba. After taking over the government, he declared himself as Communist. As a result, people in all "walks of life" began leaving the Island. Among them were teachers and professors of the schools, colleges and universities, especially those that had expressed their views against Communism. Many of these refugees came

to the United States.

These teachers were unable to teach in the United States, without additional training. Many went to Kansas State Teachers College at Emporia. Among these were Dr. Juan Jimenez and his wife Mirta. Both were able to get into the Cuba's school system. Luis Jimenez, their youngest son, attended high school in Cuba, Kansas.

The Jimenez's were interested in a reunion of this group. And, where would there be a better place for the reunion than at Cuba? But at the time for the reunion the weather turned cold, icy and bad. The highways were ice covered and slick. Many of these people, that would have come were prevented because of the weather. Being raised on the Cuban Island they were not accustomed to such cold and icy highways. Still a great many made this trip to "Cuba" for the reunion.

They gathered at Cuba's Community Hall. Here, their group, the Cuba High School band and local people assembled to form a parade and march to the high school. This was a walk of about eight blocks. The march started at about 12:30 p.m. which was the beginning of the days program.



By 1:00 p.m. all had gathered at the high school. First on the program was the National Anthem. Then an address by Dr. Aristides Sosa, Spanish professor in Atkinson, Nebraska. Then they unveiled the plaque they gave to the City of Cuba. This was followed by an address by Clayton Jones, the principal of Cuba's High School. A resume of the program was given by Dr. Jose A. Amaro, Spanish professor in Bethany College at Lindsborg, Kansas. The luncheon was served at 2:00 p.m.

After the luncheon, the program was continued. Six addresses followed as below listed:



Nadine Benyshek, president of The Spanish club at high school in Cuba, Kansas.

Dr. Oscar Hernandez, Spanish professor in K.S.T.C. in Emporia, Kansas.

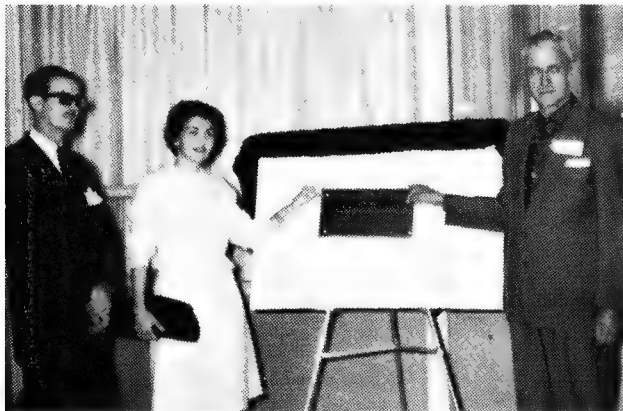
Dr. Miguel J. Solis, librarian at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana.

Fernando Mata, representative of Young Cuba students.

Dr. Eduardo del Castillo, Spanish professor at Central Missouri State College.

Mirta Jimenez, teacher at high school in Cuba, Kansas.

Following these, there was a voice recital. It was: trio Ladjevardi, with Miss Concepcion Cardenas accompanist at the piano. The program ended at 4:30 p.m. with dancing. The program was arranged by the Cuban group and Dr. Guillermo de Jorge, president (ADECEDE).



The bronze plaque was presented to Harold Fleming, the Cuba City mayor, by Juan and Mirta Jimenez for the City of Cuba. This plaque reads:

TO CUBA CITY AND THE  
PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF KANSAS  
OUR GRATITUDE  
Cuba Teachers and Librarians  
November 26, 1965

It is now located on the east wall, at the north end of the corridor at the high school. So as you enter the building, it is there for all to see.

When the Jimenez's left Cuba, they moved to Hays, Kansas. Juan taught at Fort Hays State College and Mirta taught in a neighboring town near Hays. They were well liked in the community as well as at the Cuba schools.

Researched and written by, E. F. Stepanek, June 30, 1976.

#### DISTRICT 121 — KACKLEY SCHOOL

Kackley School, Dist. 121, was one of the last organized in Republic county. Early listings of the pupils, and records kept by the first teachers, clerks and treasurers have been destroyed; therefore, the exact year or facts concerning the organization are unknown. From an accompanying picture (early school) we learn that the first schoolhouse was erected in 1896. Of the available county school directories on file in the courthouse, the first to list District 121 is also for the term 1895-6.

However, it is known that some schooling was taking place in Kackley even before the year 1895. Some of our oldest citizens recall that, though their first school days were spent in the building dated 1896, older children had



gone to school elsewhere in the town before we had the school here pictured. This is thought to have been in a building which was just north of the Johnson Hardware and Implement Store and which was later used as a doctor's office, then as a dwelling and as an auto repair shop before it was replaced by the present cement block structure.

The 1896 frame building was in the extreme northwest corner of the present "city limits", and was built on land shown by a 1902 courthouse Atlas to have belonged to an I. Anderson. Legal description is NW¼ of Sec. 26 in Beaver Township. No record of title transfer is found.

The first known teacher is for the 1895-96 term. This was H. B. Dickerhoof (great uncle of Cecil Dickerhoof, Norway; and Mrs. Jean Carney Smith, Jamestown). The school board members were: Clarence Tebow (great uncle of Howard Tebow, Courtland); Joab Houghton (great uncle of Mrs. Ruth Houghton Anderson, rural Kackley, and of Lester Houghton, Jamestown); and Nils Johnson (grandfather of Harold Johnson, rural Courtland) eighth grade graduates that year were Stella Hedges and Iva Nelson.

In the Belleville Telescope, May 6, 1898, the list of Republic County eighth-grade graduates includes three from Dist. 121. They were Grace Phillips, George Houghton (father of Hazel and Gladys, formerly of Courtland), and Magnus Johnson (father of Harold Johnson, rural Courtland). Miss Lucy Howard, County Superintendent at that time, writes in this Telescope issue: "Each member of the class to be graduated now will be prepared with essay or oration of his own production". Commencement Exercises were held at Kackley, Tuesday night, May 24 (at Courtland the next night, and at other county towns on the following or preceding nights, states the article). Presumably, programs at each town were conducted by the county superintendent. The writing of essays upon graduation from eighth grade was a custom of those years, and in some schools, Kackley being one, was continued into the 1920's (an appropriate as well as a challenging assignment).

The earliest listing of pupils for Dist. 121 is for the



year 1898-99 and comes from a souvenir given to her pupils by the teacher, Sylvia Blackwood. They were: George Houghton, Albert Johnson, Josephine Kackley, Carl Larson, Joe Moore, John Nelson, Regina Nelson, Russel and Ralph Ortlip, Emma Phillips, Roy Poage, Jake Willis, Clarence Axel and Alice Anderson, Amy, Anna, Martha and Richard Chapman, Eva and Ben Clarke, Ruth Mabel and Emil Haggman, Adolph Johnson, Bayard Kackley, Turner Kackley, Clara Larson, Carrie Moore, Levi Nelson, Clarence Nyvall, Grace Phillips, Lucile Phillips, Esther and Arvid Rolph, Hedvig Berg, Elmer Churchill, Dora Duga, Lillie and Willie Hedges, Clarence Johnson, Maud Kackley, Aaron Larson, Charlie Moore, Emma Nelson, Sam Nelson, Maud Phillips, Walter Phillips, Alma Bergstrom and Magnus Johnson.



This is the earliest available picture of Kackley School and pupils. It is loaned by Mrs. Myra Sherwood Carlson, whose mother, Sylvia Blackwood, was the teacher. It was taken either during the 1901-02 or 1902-03 term of school. They are: Back row: Roy Poage, George Houghton, Adolph Johnson, Axel Anderson, Amy Chapman, Eva Clarke, Emma Nelson, Clarence Johnson, Maud Phillips, Ben Clarke, Miss Blackwood and Willie Hedges.

Next row: Bert Johnson, Lillie Hedges, Levi Nelson, Alice Anderson, Esther Rolph and Lucile Phillips.

Next row: Sam Nelson, Richard Chapman, Clara Larson, Martha Chapman, Josephine Kackley, Maud Kackley, Clarence Nyvall, Clarence Anderson and Bayard Kackley.

Front row: Arvid Rolph, Gerald Fitzgerald, Ralph Ortlip, Emma Phillips, Regina Nelson, Dora Dugas, Russel Ortlip, Walter Phillips and Alfred Dugas.

Other teachers of the early 1900's were: Birdie McKee, Kate McGlashran, Adele Booze, C. C. Sterba, Cora Simpson and Daisy Simpson. (Daisy married Leonard Haggman, Dist. 104. They lived at the farm home now 2 miles north and 1 mile west of Kackley). Salaries during the early 1900's ranged from \$45 to \$65 per month.

Often listed on the school board between 1907-1920 were: A. M. Johnson, 13 years, (father of Carl and Edgar); Adolph Johnson, 18 years (uncle of Carl and Edgar, great uncle of Irwin, Courtland); John Stanton, 7

years, Victor Nelson, 6 years; Robert Lundblade and W. R. Phillips.



Back row, l. to r. — Miss Adele Booze (teacher), Emma Phillips, Zanie McGregor, Vera Richardson, Florence Rolph, Viola Churchill, Connie Oden, Arvid Rolph.

Center row — Harry Hill, Walter Phillips, Iva Houghton; Esther Lundblade, Agnes Nelson, Hilder Nelson, Ruth Houghton, Erma Richardson.

Front row — Clella Kackley, Vera McGregor, Algot Johnson, Lester Houghton, Lowell Houghton, Elmer Johnson, Edward Carlson, Marvin Kackley.

This picture is loaned by Mrs. Hans Anderson (Ruth

The annual school meeting of April 10, 1914, is the first for which recorded minutes exist. At this meeting it was voted to begin school on the first Monday in September, to have eight months of school, to levy a tax of \$700.00 and to establish a revolving fund for school books. John Monson was to receive \$2.00 for cleaning the schoolhouse before the next fall term.

At the annual school meeting in April, 1916, it was voted to change the one-room school to a two-room graded school with two teachers, and to raise taxes from \$700 to \$1250. Board members that year were A. M. Johnson, Oscar Carlson (father of Arelia and Swen) and John Shaver. For the school term 1916-17, Leva Burkman of the Talmo area became principal and upper-grade teacher at a salary of \$62.50 per month. Trixie Knight taught the four lower grades for \$50 per month. Entries in the treasurer's record of 1916 show that J. O. Anderson received \$32.50 for "remodeling the schoolhouse"; Jonas Johnson, \$13.90 for 55 hours of work; Oscar Carlson, \$24 for 96 hours; and Wm. Hedges \$2.25 for chimney work during remodeling. (But at that time, one of Kackley's General Merchandise stores was selling American Beauty whole bean coffee for .25 a lb., and gingham at .8 a yd.)

At this point, let us acknowledge that an item in a summer issue of The Belleville Telescope in 1976 related that Leva Burkman Duclo and her husband Frank of Kansas City, willed \$300,000 to Republic and Cloud counties.

Here we have a picture of Kackley School in 1906 as a one-room school

Note the changes made in 1916-17 for the two-room school as it appeared from the south and east. For the



term 1917-18 the ninth grade was added to the upper room. Miss Ruth Houghton Anderson taught grades seven, eight and nine. Miss Iva Houghton (Mrs. John Benson, Roseburg, Oregon) taught the first six grades. The total wages for the term were \$1025; whereas, the total expenses were \$1287. The combined enrollment was forty-four.

In 1917-18 while Miss Iva Houghton was teaching grades one through six, her pupils were: Back row: Renold Johnson, Leona Nelson, Chester Larson, Inez Bergstrom, (Miss Iva Houghton, teacher), Beulah McMillian, Louise Lundquist and Arden Johnson. Middle



row: Carl Johnson, Charles McMillian, Edgar Nelson, Harold Nelson, Arne Johnson, Thelma Larson, Swen Carlson, Hilda Nelson and Ray McMillian. Front row: Agnes Johnson, Lotta May Dickerhoof, Cecil Dickerhoof, Oliver Johnson, Arelia Carlson and Berniece Lawyer.



Miss Ruth Houghton taught the 7th, 8th and 9th grades in 1917-18 with these pupils: Back row: Agnes Olsson, Augusta Johnson, Carl Olsson, Edgar Johnson, Jarl Olsson, Forrest Carlson and the teacher Miss Ruth Houghton. Front row: Velva Shaver, Sigrid Monson, Florence Johnson, Theodore Nelson, Avis Carney, Harold Shaver, Lawrence Olson and Arvid Olson.

Board members and parents made a greater forward step at the 1919 Annual Meeting. In the minutes, Victor Nelson, clerk, recorded that a "motion was made and carried to vote by ballot on a proposition submitted for a four-year accredited high school and a new school building". There being a majority vote favoring this motion, a "motion was made and carried to elect a committee of three to meet and work with the District Board in planning the construction of the proposed school building". On this committee were: Mrs. Dave Dickerhoof (now of Norway, mother of Cecil), Adolph Johnson and Henry Johnson. Other board members of 1918-19 were A. M. Johnson and John Bergstrom (father of Inez and Ivan).

During meetings the next few months, both at school and in the Kackley Woodman Hall at night (there was electricity), the following decisions were made:

- 1) to dispose of bonds for \$12,000;
- 2) to accept the bid of Sanneman Bros. Construction Co., Green, Kans.
- 3) "to change the school site to east of Rice Ave., south of Malan St. and opposite the A. M. Johnson residence";
- 4) to purchase this site from Phillips Addition to Kackley (Lots 1 to 8, Block 1) Later bought from Jennie Phillips for \$450;
- 5) to sell at public auction the old school building and property (after appraisal by county commissioners), reserving the right to use the old school building until the new construction was completed.

According to the minutes of the clerk, Victor Nelson, the building committee, with caution and foresight, placed these restrictions on the accepted architect's plans:

"in place of 2-ply paper for roofing, at least 4-ply to be used; committee reserves right to use other kinds of roofing if it desires."

"would like more information as to the brick used,

and, if possible, would like to see a sample of the brick". "flooring to be used must be satisfactory to the committee".

Construction was soon underway as were classes in the grades and Kackley's first high school in 1919.

Throughout the history of our country, some of the first schools began in various places and under improvised and unlikely conditions. This time it was in the old Kackley Baptist Church (unused for several years) that K.H.S., in September 1919, had its beginning during the period of construction. And it was Esther and Alphild Larson who, as Kackley's first high school teachers, pioneered in the task of providing maximum quality high school education under minimum facilities. A large curtain divided the one-room church into two sections in order to have separate discussion and study areas. Tables and chairs served as desks and were used later in the new building until school furniture arrived. An entry at the east end of the church provided for wraps, dinner pails and a water urn. The old church stove remained as the source of heat. One basketball goal was erected outside the church. When a former student of the "church school" was asked if any annoying inconveniences were recalled, as contrasted to the luxuries of today, the reply was, "we thought it was go great to have a high school in Kackley that we felt everything was just fine!"

Doubtless, "just fine" included the transportation aspect also. Though there were cars in the community, some families preferred their cars not to be driven to school; therefore, more students came via horse and buggy over dirt roads of from three to eight miles. If snow drifts were deep, horseback-riding was not uncommon. Since nearly every home in town had a barn, there was ample space for rent, the students unhitched their horses in the morning and "hitched up" again at night. Then, farm chores awaited them at home, both night and morning. Such was "the order of the day", those days, that is. Possibly some things were lacking, but nothing was missed.

The first Senior Class to graduate from Kackley high school was in 1921 at the Ada Lutheran church with Dr. Ernest Philblad, president of Bethany college, Lindsborg, giving the address. They were: Emma Bethel (Mrs. Frank Bartlett, Salina), Forrest Carlson (brother of Mrs. Pete Hansen and Mrs. Elvie Johnson, Courtland), Elvina Falk (aunt of Emma Bethel), Nels Florell (former Republic county high school teacher), Edgar Johnson (father of Irwin, Courtland), Theodore Nelson, (Las Cruces, New Mexico.), Arvid Olson, Abilene; Agnes Olsson (Mrs. Fred Woerner, Los Angeles); Jarl Olsson (former L. A. teacher).

Down at the 1896 grade school building, teachers for this last year of 1919-20 were Jessie Patterson, grades 5-8, Vera McGregor, grades 1-4. Later in 1920 the old school building and grounds were sold for \$580 to Mr. A. M. Lager to use as his home. In 1945, the building was bought by Mr. and Mrs. Roy Moore, dismantled and used in enlarging and remodeling their farm home near Norway.

The 1920-21 school term was the first in this new building. Grade teachers were Miss Vera McGregor, 5-8, and Miss Delpha Williams, 1-4. Their total enrollment was 27. High school teachers were Miss Alphild Larson and Miss Esther Larson with an enrollment of 25. Salaries of all four teachers totaled \$4210. To the right of the building were the swings, teeter-totters, slide, and merry-go-



round. To the left was a 60' by 90' basketball court. Ample space remained for games, baseball diamonds, etc. Back of the building, convenient to the furnace room entrance, were the coal-cob shed and also the cistern. (Yes, an item in the janitors' contracts requests shades to be left uniform at the close of the day.)



Here is the first available picture of Kackley grades in the 1920 building. Grades five to eight were: Back row: Margaret Reager, Vivian Johnson, Elvia Monson, the teacher Miss Carney, Marcille Thomas, James Carney, Harold Edberg and Chester Johnson. Front row: Madeline Tornquist, Irene Joy, Evelyn Tornquist, Adolph Nelson, Merl Regor, Donald Thomas, Clifford Nelson and Ivan Joy.



Also in 1928-29 in this picture of grades one to four: Back row: Allwin Tornquist, Mildred Johnson, Lucine Shaver, Maxine Haskins, Ailene Nelson, June Hansen and Eugene Joy. Next row: Robert Nichols, Jarl Johnson, Jean Carney, Fern Thomas, Marie Tornquist, Jean



Johnson and Ernest Nelson. Front row: (holding the Valentine box) Leo Thomas and Melvin Slipsager.

K.H.S. began with a college preparatory course for all students. A basement room was equipped as a laboratory for physics and science experiments. Chemistry equipment was later added. Courses added in later years were: commercial subjects, journalism, and during some years, glee club.



Here is a girls' sextette in 1940-41. Back row: Mabel Nelson, Ruth Carlson, Marceil Johnson. Front row: Ella Mae Gustafson, Lorene Voshell the instructor, and Agnes Olson. (Courtesy of Mrs. Eldon Larson)

From 1919 to 1939 there were two high school teachers. Three were then employed until 1943 when decreasing enrollment closed the high school after 23 years of operation. Records show that 13 attended the term of 1942-43; whereas, the highest enrollment was about 35 in the mid-twenties.

District 121 became a Standardized School in 1932-33. Faculty members that year were Supt. Carl Bothwell, Miss Joye Barton, Miss Genevieve Roth and Miss Mary McClimans. On the school board were Lester Houghton, Elmer E. Johnson and Adolph Johnson.

Appalling it is to contrast some entries in the treasurer's records 1930-34 with amounts of today (1976): janitor's wages, \$20 a mo. teacher's substitute was \$10 for two days, Marvin Slipsager paid \$2.00 for cleaning the cistern, Milo Smith of Salina was paid \$2.50 for tuning the piano. Albert Swenson \$3.75 for 2 loads of water, P. F. Larson was paid \$27 for 54 hr. painting at .50 a hr., Carl Anderson received \$8.00 for 4 days cleaning walls, Edwin Anderson \$6.00 for 3 days of cleaning walls, Mrs. Little received \$1.50 for washing and ironing curtains, coal was \$6.25 a ton and a Sears' phonograph cost \$8.25.

Though Kackley's enrollment did not warrant a full-time music instructor, the schoolboard, through the years, made very possible effort to always employ a grade or a high school teacher qualified to teach music.

The first major musical production we recall was the operetta "Rumpelstiltskin", directed by Misses Alphild and Esther Larson and given at the Kackley Woodman Hall during the 1918-19 term while high school was at the church, and grade school at the original site. Because of the size of the cast and the choruses, all high school and grade pupils were in the operetta; and, due to the many people living in the Kackley area in those days, it was given on two successive nights (as were all evening school

entertainments of the '20s). Operettas continued to be given because they provided musical experiences for all children. One given in the early thirties was "The Blue Belt", a fairy tale of Norway--Admission .20 and .35, and with specialties between acts! (But were not all costs proportionate?)

In some years the high school and grade groups were combined for Music Festivals and for Christmas programs. There were grade rhythm bands and high school glee clubs in the 20s, 30s, and later. In the early forties there was a combined Rhythm and Symphonette Band with 15 members, symphonettes being played by the high school.

Minutes of a board and teachers' meeting in the 50s report the discussion of purchasing a new set of drums and new band chairs. At this time and for a period of seven years, Mrs. Doris Smith taught grades one and two and music for all grades; meanwhile Mrs. Helen Beck taught grades 3 to 8 and did gym classes. Enrollment increased in the upper grades so that a third teacher was hired for grades three and four with Mrs. Mildred Paul and later Mrs. Bina Bunn. In the upper grades Mr. Sterling taught after Mrs. Beck and then Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Lund were there. During this time Mrs. Smith gave piano and instrumental lessons so that at one time there was a 30-piece band. A piano recital was held each spring. The most memorable operettas were Tom Sawyer and Cinderella. For the latter one, three mothers came to the school as beauty operators and styled the hair for all the little girls with it piled high, in that once-upon-a-time fashion.

The last music instruction in Kackley grades was under the supervision of Mrs. Luella Nystrom (1956-66). Vocal music was given in all grades, and both private instrumental and band in the upper grades. For some years Mrs. Nystrom used the 1920 study hall for music instruction, a decision having been made at an August 1956 meeting of teachers and board "to remove the stage and make other repairs for use as a music room." (It has been noted that the board and teachers met together, many years every month, so that the board could keep in touch with the needs of the school. These boards were outstanding in that they rarely had to be asked for school help, they had asked the teachers what they could do to be of help. They were proud of their school and would do everything possible to supply the equipment and environment for learning.)

In various areas, changes and improvements had to come with the years. Minutes of a 1935 meeting state "by unanimous vote, it was decided to purchase a new furnace for the schoolhouse from Chris Paulsen of Jamestown, and he to install the furnace; charges for work were .50 an hr., the two oil furnaces to be delivered at Kackley, Kans. for \$400." In 1946, Bergstrom Electric Co. of Kackley installed plumbing, rest rooms, a kitchen sink, and a water heater, all of which necessitated drilling a well. A refrigerator was also added at this time. With new electric stoves replacing the old cook stove in 1947, minor structural alterations were made in the kitchen, lunch room, and janitorial areas.

Improvements had to come in gym facilities, there was no other way to go! In the 1920 building plans, no provision was made for an indoor play area. At that time there were no organized grade school athletics. Children played in a happy relaxed manner, but with initiative, and with supervision and direction as necessary. The high

school boys, with coaching help from several capable local businessmen, set to work that first season ignoring the frigid blasts across their 60' by 90' outdoor court. Says a basketball player of those early years, "The only thing that stopped us was mud or snow." With this spirit and determination, these small-town and country boys were somehow able to produce winning teams for Kackley as soon as Kackley had provided a high school for them. Occasionally for practice, the boys rented Norway's court in the town hall. All competitive games had to be played on the opponents' courts.

From 1931 to 1938 the gym situation was somewhat improved, when for five months each winter, the schoolboard rented from Mr. J. D. Carney, the old stone building which was a block north of school, and which had in the late 1890s and early 1900s, served Kackley first as a grocery store and later as a hotel. To renovate this structure, bleachers were placed where once was kitchen, dining room and lobby gave way to court area, windows were guarded, and out came the second floor, once bed rooms and apartments. Board members devoting thought and planning to this project were Lester Houghton,



Adolph Johnson and John Bergstrom. In this picture is the first Kackley high school team (1922-23). Back row: Albert Segerhammar, Harold Shaver, Coach Herman Hjortholm, Edwin Anderson, and Homer Swenson. Front row: Chester Larson, Warren Segerhammar, George Greenberg and Truman Johnson.

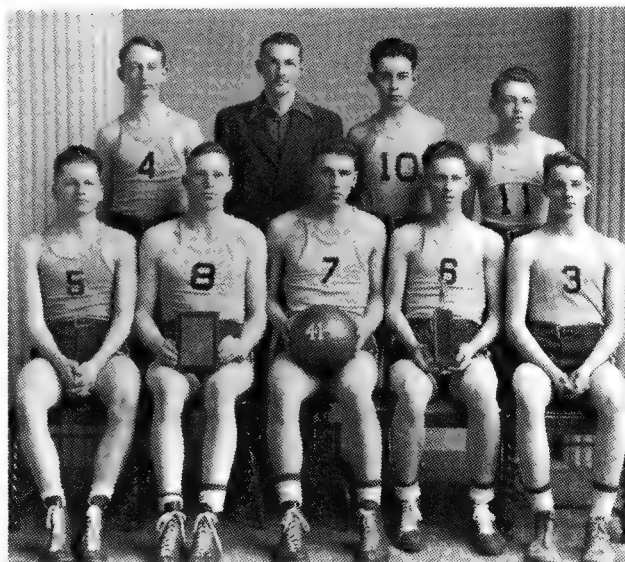
In that building Mr. Carney was to furnish "fuel (coal stove) and light, and keep in repair" for \$40 to \$75 per season, say the written contracts of those years. Narrower than regulation size was this court, players and balls could not go out of bounds, only up the wall or against it. Even with its adverse factors, this court was a great help for winter practices, and on it Kackley continued to make more wins than their opponents would have expected. The "hotel gym" also provided a practice area for future goalshooters from the grades and as a place for supervised play during severe weather.

In March 1938, a board meeting at the Kackley State Bank resulted in further improvement. The decision was made "to confer with several Belleville attorneys relative to the proposition of voting bonds for purchasing and equipping a hall for school purposes". Board members then were Lester Houghton, Roy Nichols and Adolph Johnson. This meeting led to converting to a gym the much larger brick building which was across the street from the stone structure and which was once a grocery, drygoods and shoe store. In the basement of this building a furnace was installed, and a dressing room was added, both lacking in the previous gym. The resurfaced main floor had ample space for the bleachers along both east and west walls. This building was dedicated November 18, 1938 with School Supt. Ben Meadows as Emcee and with Co. Supt. Madison Coombs giving the dedicatory address.

Expenses incurred in converting the 1938 gym must have been justified, according to the honors achieved by the Bear Cats under Supt. Carl Bothwell 1931-37 and under Supt. Meadows 1937-40. The grade team, Bear Cubs, continued games with nearby schools. They were coached by upper grade teachers: Willis Trussell 1938-39, Raymond Cyr 1939-31. Assisting in grade coaching these years and the following year was Arthur Carlson, a high school student. In 1936, Clifford Nelson won the half-mile state contest in Wichita. Then in 1940 Ernest Nelson won the state pole vault competition.

The Bear Cat Inn, operated on game nights by girls and their mothers next door to the gym, was appreciated by spectators and by players both because of the sociability feature and because Kackley had no cafe (and the automatic dispenser era was not yet with us).

When the high school closed in 1943, the gym was kept up by the district for the next ten years, and remained available for the grades and the town team.



In this picture is shown one of the last K.H.S. teams (1941-42): Front row: Rex Swearingen, Milford Carlson, Athan Galloway, Virgil Slipsager, Robert Florell. Back row: Leon Johnson, Supt. Kent Collier, James Almquist and Clinton Johnson. (Picture courtesy Milford Carlson)

In outdoor sports activities, Kackley grades joined with neighboring rural schools both in Republic and in Jewell county. Home-school practice of field and track

events was fun for all and the afternoon competition with visiting schools was exciting.

After consolidations, and fewer country schools, Dist. 221 participated in field and track programs with Republic and Jewell county small-town schools, either on an invitational or an organized league plans.

The year 1941 saw two extensions begin in the school program. School superintendent, Harold Johnson, was instrumental in beginning the Kackley Community Club, which continued until school's close in 1966, and which rendered numerous services to the school during those years. The club was also of an entertainment and social nature, and an asset to the school and community. Though there were the usual officers, different program and refreshment committees were responsible for each monthly meeting.

The second project begun in 1941 was the Hot Lunch Program. Through efforts of the Republic County Welfare Office and the Community Club, the first hot lunch was served Nov. 5, 1941 to 27 pupils. Welfare workers were Mrs. Lucy Ullum and Mrs. Winnie Williams, both from Belleville. Until welfare workers were available, partial hot lunches were served with voluntary help under the supervision of Mrs. Jennie Scarbrough, a high school teacher. Supplementing these hot lunches were the traditional dinner pails. Limited commodities were available from the U. S. government.

The Community club aided the initial Hot Lunch Program at various times. At one meeting different members volunteered donations as a list of needed articles was read. Help is reported to have come another time when at a meeting an announcement was made that funds were needed for further financing. From one concerned parent came the oft-tried solution, "Pass the Hat". Discussion followed as to How?, by canvassing, by subscriptions, and as to When? From the same concerned parent came a very audible, immediate, and expressive Now! Literally, said that at least partially accomplished its purpose.

The Federal Program on a "matching funds" basis began during the term 1947-48 and continued until the school closed. This same year, the old trusty cook stove, having given service since 1920, had to yield to the more modern General Electric.

Records on the early lunch program are incomplete. Those who cooked longer periods were: Mrs. Victor Nelson about 5 years, Mrs. Ester Monson 6 years, and Mrs. Lucille Pounds, who served the last 4 years, from 1962-66.

#### Pre-Consolidation The Tuition Plan

During the 30s and 40s, enrollment in rural schools bordering District 121 was decreasing. When the number of pupils became so small that operation of a school was unwise, pupils were admitted to a larger school on the tuition plan. A contract, made between the closing and the accepting schools, stated that a "tuition fee of \$3.00 per child per month be paid up to 7 children, and no charge for children over that number". If a child entered during the month, the fee was .75 per week. The contracts were approved by the voters of the closing school and signed by the board members of both districts. As long as the tuition plan was in effect, each district was responsible for its own transportation. In different years from 1933 to 1950 the following rural schools, in order given, began sending

their children to Kackley: Districts 104, 82, 100, 87, 99 and 32. They did not consolidate in this order.

#### Steps in Consolidation

By 1941 consolidation of these rural schools with Kackley was being considered. At a March, 1941 meeting of the Kackley Board, consisting of Emanuel Tornquist, Adolph Johnson and Roy Nichols, the motion was made and carried that an attorney be employed to give information as "how to approach this question and the proper steps to be taken for consolidation, if it is favorable with one or more school districts".

Thus it was learned that five steps were necessary to legally consolidate with another district.

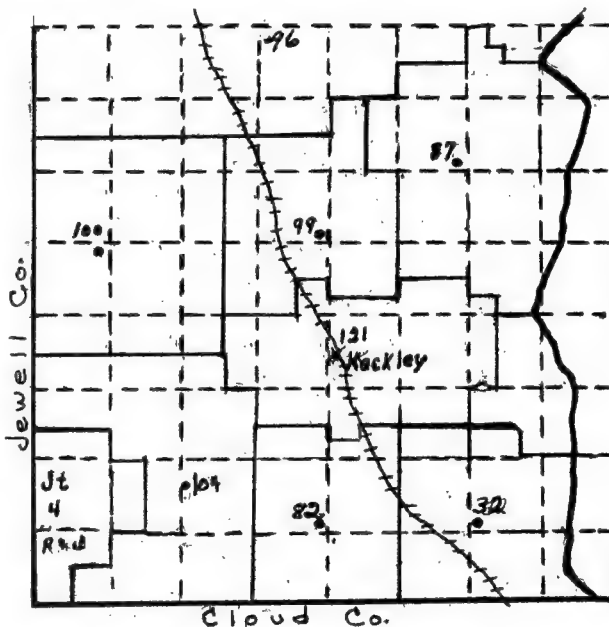
First, at a district meeting, a majority of patrons must vote favoring consolidation. Some districts favored taking a petition.

Secondly, the board of the receiving school acted upon this request.

Thirdly, returned the notice of acceptance, with their signatures, to the clerk of the school wishing consolidation.

Fourth, this district then had a second meeting to vote upon the proposition and returned their vote to the receiving school.

Lastly, the receiving school had to obtain the signature of a notary public to finally legalize the consolidation.



#### Consolidations With District 121

On July 9, 1945, Dist. 82, having sent their pupils to Kackley since 1937, began legal proceedings for consolidation. When completed according to the previous five steps listed, the two districts were designated as one; namely, Dist. 82-121. However, Assistant State Supt. at that time stated that this name could not be used indefinitely. In April 1946, Co. Supt. Fannie Dilsaver sent Dist. 82-121 a notice which read in part "these two districts, as one district, were temporarily No. 82-121, and had effected a completion of legal status as one district on July 9, 1945. In accordance with Kansas Statute 72-302, 1943, this said district is to be known as Dist. No. 221 as of



April 27, 1946". Board members at the time of this name change were Albert Swenson, Mrs. Eva Johnson and Lawrence E. Olson.

In 1933, pupils of Dist. 104 began attending Dist. 121. On March 2, 1946, a petition from 16 members of Dist. 104 was filed in the office of the County Superintendent. The remaining four steps of consolidation (as before stated) were completed by March 14, and on May 29, 1946, Dist. 104 was legally annexed to Dist. 221.

Pupils from Dist. 99 began attending Dist. 121 in April 1944, their teacher having resigned at the end of March. On March 14, 1946, 38 voters of Dist. 99 signed a petition stating their wish to be annexed to Dist. 82-121. By March 26th, the two districts had completed the five steps of consolidation, and on May 29, 1946, Dist. 99 was declared by the County Attorney to be annexed to Dist. 221.

On March 23, 1946, 22 signers of Dist. 100 petitioned Dist. 82-121 to be annexed to said district. Their steps of consolidation were completed April 5, 1946 and received signature of Notary Public, Adolph Johnson on May 1, 1946.

District 87 voted at a special meeting August 25, 1950 to annex their district to Dist. 221. Their Consolidation was completed Sept. 1, 1950.

Dist. 32 closed in 1945 and voted at a special election April 13, 1951 to be annexed to Dist. 221. Disorganization of Dist. 32 became effective July 1, 1951 and was signed by Mrs. Thressa Kelly, Co. Supt. of Republic County and by Supt. Kappelman of Cloud County (a portion of Dist. 32 having been in Cloud County). On June 30, 1966, the Board of Education for Kackley 221 Jt. R.C.J. deeded the schoolhouse and land back to the Oak Creek Community.

After the term 1957-58, Kackley School was no longer identified legally as Dist. 221, but as Jt. 221, R.C.J. Kackley Graded School. Reason follows: On June 7, 1957, Hill Grove School, Jt. 4 Jewell and Republic Counties, voted to disorganize and annex its 1240.18 A. to Dist. 221. This District (Hill Grove) was in extreme southwest. Republic County and eastern Jewell County. Of this area 45.99 percent is in Lake area and 54.01 percent in land area. This transfer was jointly signed by Wm. Matthias and Carl Westin, Superintendents of Republic and Jewell counties, respectively. The official notice from Ass't State Supt. Kampschroeder states "that Cons. School Dist. Jt. 4 (Hill Grove) Jewell and Republic counties, has been disorganized and its territory annexed to Cons. School Dist. 53, Randall, Jewell Co., and to Cons. School District No. 221 (Kackley) Republic and Jewell Counties, Kans."

#### BUSSING

Each rural school, after it closed, but before it consolidated, was responsible for transporting its pupils to Dist. 221.



OUR BUS

As each school consolidated, the responsibility was, thereafter, Kackley's. Before Dist. 221 owned a bus, parents were paid for taking their children to school. For the 1946-47 term, after four schools had consolidated, this cost to the District was \$866. The next term the District hired for the 10-mile round trip, a bus which had been converted from a pickup. When Kackley bought its first bus, at the beginning of the 1948-49 term, 10 pupils a day



were riding a round trip of 17 miles. A second bus was bought in 1950 after the fifth school consolidated. For the next five years, from 32 to 39 pupils were transported on four routes totaling 55 miles per day. In 1958 a new bus



replaced the older one. From 1957-1964, the number of pupils riding varied from 36-43. During the one year 1963-64, the number of miles driven was 19,501. Driving for the longest period of time is Ole Hansen, who began in 1952 and continued until the school closed in 1966. Since that year he has driven a bus from the Kackley area to Courtland school.

#### Last Construction Project for Kackley

In 1953, with the increased size of the district, the need was felt for a larger auditorium. The 1920 facility was unsafe and too small to accomodate crowds at grade school entertainments. Enrollment was 42; pre-schoolers, 41. Restoring the 1939 gym was considered, but with the estimated cost of \$12,000, it would still have been inadequate and remote from the school building.

For a new auditorium, plans of two architects were considered; the second accepted. Estimated cost was \$30,000, for which amount bonds were issued in April 1954.

The accepted plan included an 81' by 52' auditorium with a 38' by 58' court, a stage with storage for chairs, showers, dressing rooms, and a seating capacity of 250.

This new addition to the 1920 structure was completed and dedicated in late 1954. School board members during the planning and construction were: Bertil Olson, Ralph Swearingen, Alfred Anderson and Swen Carlson.

The well-equipped and spacious auditorium added immeasurably to the joy and ease of teachers in preparing and presenting band programs, operettas and other school functions. It was also used for regular meetings of the Community Club, for grade team athletic banquets, for grade and town team basketball tournaments, alumni reunions and other community activities. The Eager Beaver 4-H club regularly met here.



While Mr. Elmo Lund was upper grade teacher, he coached these boys in basketball: Dick Anderson, Robert Kadel, A. B. Johnson, Robert Carter, Paul Johnson, Jerry Rupert and Larry Olson. They had a very enjoyable season in 1953-54. (Picture courtesy Mrs. Doris Smith)



Ten years later, under the coaching of Gary Lapo we have this picture (courtesy of Dale Hansen) when Kackley grades won the N. W. League Championship. They are: Front row: Verlene Johnson, Patricia Blackburn, Coach Lapo, Marilyn Isaacson and Laura Johnson. Back row: Phillip Johnson, Micahel Olson, Alan Wanklyn, Michael Flewelling, Dale Hansen, Lonnie Hedstrom, Michael Kadel, John Isaacson and Donald Johnson. This was one of a number of tournaments in which trophies were won by Kackley grade basketball teams. Mr. Lapo was teacher and coach from 1957-64. Eight schools were in Republic Valley League 1962. With Marion Johnson as coach the last two years, 1964-66, other tournament

trophies were placed in the trophy case which Bertil Olson had made and presented to the school. During these last years Marion organized a girls' team which played neighboring schools. In outdoor sports, other than softball and field and track events, flag football had become popular.



At eighth grade graduation exercises, Belleville, 1960. Kackley 8th grade graduates. Back row: Mr. Gary Lapo, teacher, Merle Jackson, James Larson, Carl Segerhammar, Warren Sutton. Front row: Juanita Bergstrom, Marcia Hedstrom, Pamela Blackburn, Jo Ann Hansen.

Other teachers from 1960 to 1966 were Mrs. Karen White, Margaret Pankratz and Mrs. Berniece Shirley, with Mrs. Luella continuing as music instructor.



In 1960-61 Mrs. Shirley's room was grades one and two. Back row: Susan Kadel, Philip Johnson, Sheryl Johnson, Alice Jackson and Ruth Ann Larson. Front row: Lenita Bergstrom, Karen Sweat, Terry Olson, Ann Segerhammar, Sharon Sweat, Mona Hedstrom and the teacher, Mrs. Shirley.

The twins were Karen and Sharon Sweat.

In the middle grades, 3, 4 5 were these pupils: Back row: Linda Hammer, Diana Barrett, Alma Dean Johnson, Cathy Kadel, Carmen Schou and Mary Johnson. Middle row: Mike Olson, Dale Hansen, Patricia Blackburn, Verlene Johnson, Alan Wanklyn and John Isaacson. Front row: the teacher, Mrs. Karen White, Donald Johnson, Ann



Swenson, Mary Nell Larson, Esther Hammer, Helen Vollan and Deanna Flewelling.



Gary Lapo taught grades 6, 7, 8 that year with these pupils: Back row: Michael Flewelling, Pamela Peterson, Marilyn Isaacson, Elaine Larson and Laura Johnson. Middle row: the music teacher, Mrs. Luella Nystrom, Paul Segerhammar, Roger Barrett, Joyce Jackson, Stevie Pounds, Lonnie Hedstrom, Mike Kadel and Mr. Gary Lapo room teacher. Front row: Loren Sweat, Mark Wanklyn, Tommy Peterson, Bob Shirley and Janet Peterson.

Enrollment during 1965-66, the last year, was 18. Average enrollment of the 60s was 35, of the 50s, 45; of the 40s, 20; and during the 30s, 18. The highest enrollment of any year was 51 during 1956-57; whereas the lowest was 12 during the two terms of 1943-44 and 1944-45.

Kackley's last eighth grade graduates were as follows: Deanna Flewelling, Esther Hammer, Mary Nell Larson, John Isaacson and Cathy Kadel.

On July 1, 1966 Cons. School Dist. No. Jt. 221 (Kackley) Republic and Jewell counties, Kans. became a part of Unified Dist. 426. Board members at this time were: Eugene Kadel, director; Leon Johnson, clerk; and Eugene Sederlin, treasurer. Elected to represent the Kackley area for the 1966-67 term in Unified School Dist. 426 were Willis Trussell and Eugene Kadel.

After approximately 70 years, Kackley no longer had a school in operation. In 1972 the building and grounds (Lots 1 to 9, Block 1, Phillips Addition) were sold at auction to Frank Stanley; and in 1975 Frank and Darlene Stanley sold the property to Kansas Steel Post, Inc., in

whose possession it currently is.

Time and neglect have left their mark upon the building, since ownership and maintenance by Dst. 221 were discontinued in 1966. Though dejected it now stands, memories - not only of the good years and friends in Kackley School; but also of the congenial relationships among family groups, of the staunch support of interested parents, and of the strong sense of community spirit, which was, and is, our heritage.

#### DISTRICT 122—HURLEY SCHOOL OR BIG BEND SCHOOL

Hurley School was located four miles west and 3 north of Republic. The building was in the SE corner of Section 8 in Big Bend Township. The Republican River formed the northern and eastern boundary of the district.

An early school board, perhaps the first was: H. C. Aurand, Joe Straub and Jim Hurley.

Frances Gritten, who taught Hurley in 1925-26 loaned a picture of this school.



The year of 1928, a fire started in the schoolhouse, causing some damage. Some neighbors close by carried buckets of water to extinguish the fire, and the Hardy Fire Dept. arrived in time to help. school resumed the next day as per schedule.

A former student recalls that the day after the fire a portion of plaster was hanging from the ceiling above his desk. The teacher admonished him, "If that plaster falls, YOU RUN!"

Tragedy befell the schoolhouse in 1935 when the river flooded and carried the Hurley school 1½ miles east and 1½ miles south with the rampaging torrent. By 1938 the building was returned and school resumed. Eleven years later, in 1949, a tornado completely destroyed the building. There had been no school since 1941, however, so the land reverted to the Powell's.



Mr. Aurand assisted by compiling as much of the history of school terms as there were records available.

Beginning Dates	Length of Term	Teacher
Dec. 8, 1902	4 months	Ed Stafford
April 6, 1903	4 months	J. D. Jones
Sept. 22, 1903	2 months	Luana M. Wagar
Dec. 7, 1903	1 month	Della Booz
Feb. 15, 1904	3 months	Mamie McGlashan
Sept. 14, 1904	6 months	Mamie McGlashan
Sept. 18, 1905	7 months	Kate McGlashan
Oct. 1, 1906		Kate McGlashan
Sept. 16, 1907		Baxter Smith
		Ed Rickel
Sept. 14, 1908	6 months	Ruth D. Ware
Sept. 12, 1909	7 months	Ray N. Walden
Sept. 12, 1910	7 months	Jessie B. Freund
Sept. 11, 1911		Mildred Aurand
Sept. 11, 1912	7 months	Celia Denoyer
Sept. 15, 1913		Hattie Garman
Sept. 14, 1914	Sept.-April	Mary Hurley
1915		Viola Schlauder
1916	Sept.-April	Viola Schlauder
1917-18-19		May Mattingly
1920-23 incl. Pu,ils sent to Rosemound school		
1924		Clara Stafford
1925-26		Frances Gritten
1927-28		Wanda McGowan
1929		Dorothy McGowan
1930	Dale Myers and Harry Hunter	
1931-32		Harry Hunter
1933		Laverne Nelson
1934		Dorothy Lee Jones
1935-37 incl. Pu,ils went to Pine and Rosemound Schools		
1938-39		Pauline Powers
1940		Pauline Havel
1941		Geneva Fletcher

#### DISTRICT JT. 1 — REPUBLIC-CLOUD-WASHINGTON PRAIRIE CENTER OR MOHLER SCHOOL FROM OLD DISTRICT 5

As the old original Dist. 5 was now rapidly being settled, changes were necessary so that children would not have so far to go to school. For the early history of Joint I District, the reader should refer to Old District 5 which comprised this area also.

On March 20, 1872, the same day as new Stony Point 5 was organized, by order of the county superintendent, W. Lancaster, Joint 1 was organized to contain all of Sec. 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, 36, and the E½ of NE¼ Sec. 21 and SW¼ Sec. 15.

It is interesting to note that on July 25, 1871 the school board visited school and found "school very prosperous".

At the school board meeting Aug. 15, 1871 the board levied a tax of three-fourths of one percent for payment of interest on bonds and a like amount for redemption of said bond. On March 28, 1872, the treasurer was authorized to buy the \$125 bond against the District. So they were able to pay off indebtedness on repairing the old school in 1870 before the five years had elapsed.

There was considerable dissatisfaction over boundaries that had been authorized by the Supt. Lancaster as anyone might imagine. Some patrons wished to send their children to a neighboring school



rather than the one to which they belonged; sometimes for the sake of convenience and sometimes ties of friendship kept them. So on March 28, 1872 we note the first authorization to charge tuition to pupils from outside the district.

There is no record of having any school in 1873. Frank Canary notes that it was "perhaps on account of the Panic of that time".

In Frank H. Canary's report, we note that on the 13th day of August, 1874 the records showed the first mention of Jt. Dist. 2 Republic and Cloud. The director was John Waterston, clerk, John Canary; treasurer, Fred Streater. It was voted to have six months of school during the year. Back on March 2nd of that year at a special meeting at the Fred Streater home, it was voted to place the schoolhouse on or near the southeast corner of the John Waterston's homestead in Sec. 35. It was voted that the chairman appoint a committee of three to select the spot to place the schoolhouse with a schoolyard of two acres. The committee selected a site for the schoolhouse on the northeast corner of Sec. 35.

On the 28th day of March of that same year a special meeting was called for the purpose of re-locating the schoolhouse. They voted that it should be placed eighty rods north of the southeast corner of Sec. 26 on the Fred Streater homestead. They also voted to hire a lady teacher and for three months of school. Fred Streater, C. Rockerfeller, and W. M. Proper were selected to stake out the school lot. In 1875 at the annual meeting in August they levied a ½ percent tax for building fund, one percent for teacher's fund, and ¼ percent for incidentals. It was not until 1877 at the annual meeting that they voted to build one outhouse. Frank Canary reports that "it doesn't say whether a committee was appointed to locate and stake out the site" for this outhouse!

On June 2, 1879 at a special meeting, it is interesting to note that the district adopted their own textbooks for the next five years: Independent Readers and Spellers, Monteith's Geography, Davies and Peck's arithmetic, Clark's lessons in Language, and Grammar, and Barn's History of the United States. On the next meeting of Aug. 14, 1879, they voted to have four months of school. They were beginning to prosper by 1880 when they voted six

months of school, three in the summer and three in the winter, and to make repairs on the building.

At the annual meeting August 11, 1881 they again voted to have six months of school.

The next spring on April 29, 1882 a special meeting was called but no decision was reached, so they adjourned until May 6th. At this meeting they voted to build a new schoolhouse 22 ft. by 32 ft. and 12 ft. high. On the ballot vote to locate the site of the new school, there were sixteen votes cast, nine for the northwest corner of Sec. 36 (present site) and six votes for the southwest corner of Sec. 25, and one vote for the old school site.

At the regular annual meeting August 15, 1882 they voted to sell the old schoolhouse with all "useless appendages". It was bought by J. N. Roe and was still being used in 1935 as a granary.

It might be of interest to list officers of the school from 1869 to 1882: John Manning, R.H. Vining, R. James, S. Dilley, J. H. Ranny, G. M. Johnson, Daid Doran, and C. G. Bowers. Then for Joint 2 were: John Waterston, John Canary, Fred Streater, S. A. Dilley, J. N. Roe, Charlie Rockerfeller, R. H. Barrit, H.S. Cole and D. Mohler.

The teachers for that period were: P. MacDonald \$10 per mo.; Miss Lottie Barnes, \$10 per mo.; Clara B. Spooner, \$25 per mo.; J. M. Billings, \$21.67½ per mo.; Clara B. Spooner, \$22 per mo.; Clara B. Spooner, \$25 per mo.; Steven Bradley, \$25 per mo.; Miss Ella Patton, \$20 per mo.; J. M. Billings, \$25 per mo.; A. A. Perry, \$25 per mo.; T. P. Harris, \$25 per month; Miss Ella Frink, \$25 per mo.; Louisa Ireland, \$25 per mo. Some of the teachers hired for so much per month and board was furnished by the families of the district. It was called "Boarding around". The District paid for their board if they could find no boarding place. If the teacher boarded around, he or she would usually stay a week at one place and then a week at another place. The teacher was also furnished a good-sized bundle of willow or dogwood switches. Oftentimes the teacher was quite handy with them and maintained rigid discipline when necessary.

There are a few miscellaneous items of interest perhaps. Almost every year there was allowance of .75 for painting the blackboards. Black paint was applied to a space on the wall where the boards were left bare for writing. Later, many schools were able to replace these with slate blackboards which were a decided improvement. Sixteen dollars was allowed for four months of board for the teacher. One cord of wood was \$6.50. Three cords of hard wood was \$23. Most of this wood was cut in the northeastern part of the county on Mill Creek and some from farther up on Elk Creek. Standard equipment for the school would be a broom, a box of chalk and a waterpail and dipper.

#### EARLY WHITE ROCK CITY SCHOOL LATER JT. 1 R.J.

In the SW part of Section 7 in White Rock township was the old townsite of White Rock City. On Black 9, Lot 12 was the old rock school, according to the map in the 1904 Republic County Atlas. We have received information from Mrs. Henry Smies, Courtland which states that Mary Doxon taught the first term of school in the rock building of the now-deserted village of White Rock City. Mrs. Martha Ayers has shared this picture of the old stone



schoolhouse.

The school records begin with the year 1884. O. S. Gossard was the first teacher, listed in them. He held a first grade certificate to teach and received \$43.12½ per month for an eight-month term. The school board was A. B. Ogle, director; N. M. Nixon, clerk; and Chas. Parrow, treasurer.

For the first ten years the school terms were eight months long and the teachers held first and second grade certificates which had to be obtained by means of written examinations. These were usually taken at the end of four to six weeks of County Institute at the county seat under the direction of the county superintendent.

In the year 1887 sixty-nine pupils were enrolled. Two teachers, J. M. Beecher and F. S. Long, each taught sixteen weeks per term. For the next ten years school terms were six to seven months in length.

Some of the texts used were: McGuffey's Readers, Reye's Arithmetic, Wilson's Speller, Spencerians Copybook for writing, Harper's Geography, and Steele's Physiology and Hygiene.

In 1949 this school area became reorganized and was called Joint 1 Republic-Jewell. The pupils were sent to Lovewell. The last teacher was Garnett Davidson. The school board was Gaylord Rothchild, clerk; Albert Billing, treasurer; and Claud Stenson, director.

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Learning by study must be won;  
'Twas ne'er entried from sire to son.      Gay

"Memory like the ivy clings to olden times and ways and things."

## ADDENDA

When we came to the end of our effort to compile stories from many sources concerning the histories of the schools of Republic County, we realized there were many items that we had not received or had not "dug out". One such item was that the Beulah School house was sold to C.E. Sherwood when the district disorganized and was moved one mile south to that farm homestead.

One of the items that drew our attention was the post card showing the interior of a school. The pennant "Excelsior" that hung above the blackboard was a clue that caused us to assume this group of students must have been attending Excelsior School. However, that was not true. After The Belleville Telescope published the picture, the true identity turned out to be students of Union Valley when they had the first pupils attending high school classes in a rural school. But why the Excelsior pennant 1887?

After reading "Land of the Post Rock" by Muilenberg and Swineford, we believe our readers might like to know that among the people who came to settle our county were those whose origins were Scotland and England. Three divisions of this Excelsior Colony gathered in New York and came to Republic County in 1869. The first group of sixty persons attempted to settle in the White Rock area but the unfriendly Indians caused them to disperse to safer parts of the county before the year was over.

The second group came in late 1869 to take claims along Rose Creek north of Belleville and the third group decided to take their chances on the Scotch Plains southwest of Belleville. We cannot help but wonder if the pennant "Excelsior" might not have had more significance with regard to the early colonies by that name. We will leave it to our readers to delve further into this piece of history.



